

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1850.

[SIXPENCE.]

THE LAST FRENCH "CRISIS."

THE usual rumbling that precedes political earthquakes in France is distinctly audible at the present time. The combatants in the great struggle that has been going on since 1789, seem as if they were about once more to measure their strength with one another, and to prepare for a final tussle. We are much mistaken if the events of the next few months do not prove quite as remarkable as any of those which have occurred since February, 1848. In short the affairs of the French Republic are in the position commonly denominated a "crisis," and one or other of the opposing parties must make a move, the success or failure of which will give an impetus to events that cannot fail in either case to be of the highest importance.

The two parties that are actually in the field, no matter by what names they may call themselves, are the foes and the friends of the revolution of February, 1848. In the armies of the first are the Legitimists, the Orleanists, and, strangely enough, the Bonapartists; who, if they do not detest the revolution as a fact, have a very cordial abhorrence of the principles in the name of which it was brought about. In the ranks of the second are the sincere and moderate Republicans, the Democratic and Ultra-Republicans, and the Socialists and Communists, composed of all the heterogeneous and conflicting theorists to whom those names are given hap-hazard. The Revolution was commenced, and the Republic was proclaimed, in the names of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity. The result up to the present time has been that Liberty has been ignominiously thrust from the soil of France as an alien and an interloper; and that a grinding and intolerable tyranny, worse than any ever inflicted by Louis Philippe or the elder Bourbons, has been enthroned in her stead. Equality may be said to exist in France; but it looks more like an equality of misery and discontent, than any thing else. As for Fraternity, there is no such thing in France. It is an idle dream,

and the sad reality is a compound of hatred and all uncharitableness, of bitter animosities, and of mutual revilings and distrust. The Revolution has, in fact, been an utter failure in every respect; it has driven France back instead of urging her forward; and has inflicted all the mischief at a fearful cost of human life, of public happiness, and of the hard-won treasure of the toiling millions of her population.

We shall state no more than the truth of the various parties whom we rank under the one title of enemies of the Revolution, that, however much they may disagree about men, they have little disagreement about measures. Some would like Henry V. to be the master; some would prefer the Count de Paris; and others, again, would infinitely rather choose the actual President, to be the tyrant of France. In the name of "ORDEK," each and all of these parties would destroy Liberty. In fact, by their union—uncertain, mistrustful, and ill-natured as it has been—they have succeeded to this extent; and Frenchmen have lost even those vestiges of rational freedom which were left them by the tender mercies of their last Monarch. They can neither write nor speak their thoughts, nor meet in public, without being fined and imprisoned. They endure at this moment an amount of oppression—volatile, impulsive, and hasty as they are—which soberer and more reflective Englishmen have never been subjected to, and which it is pretty certain they would not tolerate, if they were.

The friends of the Revolution, dispirited as they have been, and engaged in fierce polemics and hostilities with one another, have suddenly gained a victory over the Government. The Socialist and Ultra-democratic candidates at the recent elections have carried the day in the stronghold of power, in the city of Paris itself, and have been equally successful in several of the departments. In consequence of a double return, in which the favoured candidate has chosen to sit for the department rather than for the capital, a new election is about to take place for

Paris. Another victory like the last, and the Ultra-Republicans will be in a position to beard the Government. Hence the present struggle, and the alarm and uneasiness that now prevail throughout France, and which give warning of an approaching tempest. One of the most remarkable symptoms of the crisis is the fact that the Ultra-Democrats have once for all broken with the President. His name is no longer a tower of strength; his popularity is gone; and he has been grossly insulted in the streets by large crowds of holiday-makers that gathered round his coach on Easter Monday, on his road to Vincennes. So low is he fallen that even the Legitimists take him under their patronage, and talk with insolent kindness about him as a man whom they would liberally and brilliantly reward if he would but consent to act the part of General Monk for them. He, in the meantime, sees no hope but in physical force. He stifles opinion; enacts the most stringent laws against the promulgation of all opinions but such as are in accordance with his plans for retaining the Presidency, and surrounds Paris with strong armies, commanded by Algerian generals, schooled in *razzias*, and who possess all the soldierly virtues except mercy. Nothing would better serve his purposes, and, indeed, the purposes of all parties opposed to the Republic, than a fight at the present moment. The original chiefs of the "Mountain" are in exile, and the result of a street insurrection would be to send the remaining leaders after them, to decimate the rank and file, and give the present retrogressive and incongruous system another breathing-time of a twelvemonth.

This is but a melancholy prospect for one of the three great nations of the world; but there is nothing new in it. It is the old story. It cannot be very different in a country where there is neither loyalty nor stability, nor any faith upon which the mind can rest. The loyalty of the Legitimists is but loyalty to a shadow. The loyalty of the Orleanists is more vulgar, and lacks the poetical element altogether. "Our tills were full of cash under Louis Phi-



EPSOM SPRING MEETING.—SKETCH ON THE DOWNS.—PREPARING TO START FOR THE GREAT METROPOLITAN STAKES.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

lippe," say his friends; "let us have his family back again, that we may revel among the flesh-pots, and sing 'Fi de la liberté!'" The loyalty of the Bonapartists is somewhat nobler-looking, but it is a loyalty to the dying halo of a dead system of military aggrandizement which can never be revived. None of these parties have faith in any mortal or immortal thing, except the sword. That is their deity—to coerce the turbulent, to procure repose in which trade may flourish, or to dazzle the nations by the flimsy and transitory achievements of French glory.

Amid these parties, the Republicans have, at least, the merit of having faith in something. They believe in the Republic, and avow loyalty to its principles. It is for this reason, that, sooner or later, they will try their chance in open conflict, and that we foresee long and unhappy troubles for France. They love liberty with a sentimental enthusiasm, without knowing what it means; and would fight to the death for the shadow of it, when the substance might be slipping from their grasp. In its name they would inaugurate a tyranny, and wonder that the people were not happy. The Socialists are equally zealous, equally sincere, and equally tyrannical. They would, if they had the power, endeavour to cram their crude theories down the throats of the public at the point of the bayonet. Look where we will, we find that there is no such thing as toleration in the whole country. Every political party is a despot, and would make every other party its slave. Every man understands freedom for himself, but not for his neighbour. The whole people requires education; and, what is more, it requires common-sense. It is said that calamity is the greatest teacher of this essential acquirement. We think, considering all the present circumstances of the country, that France bids fair to have before long a little schooling from this hard-hearted, but most valuable preceptor.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Two meetings of very inferior interest—one at Long Sutton, on Monday, and the other at Rochford Hundred, on the following day—will bring a moderately successful steeple-chase season to a close. Coursing finished in April; good sportsmen think it ought not to have gone beyond March.

The racing circles congregate next week at Newmarket, with the prospect of a fair average meeting; it will commence on Monday and terminate on Friday; its most important features being the Newmarket Handicap on Tuesday, the Column Stakes on Wednesday, and the Port on Friday. This will be the only meeting of the week.

As yet the cricket and aquatic calendars are "blank" as regards fixtures, but, from all that we can hear, there is plenty of work cut out in both departments. The Marylebone Club will have to work hard to get through their engagements.

EPSOM SPRING MEETING.

This Meeting commenced on Thursday. The morning was showery; but, towards the hour for the sport, the weather cleared up, and the sun shone with more than April splendour. The company on the Downs was more numerous than hitherto at the Spring Meeting. The racing was excellent, and appeared to give great satisfaction to all assembled to witness it. In "the Great Metropolitan" race, Mr. Gratwicke's *Cheerful*, the favourite, who was expected to win easily, came in an indifferent third; Colonel Anson's *Backbiter* coming in the winner, and Major Pitt's *Mounseer*, second.

During the Metropolitan, we regret to state, that the large Stand, between the Grand Stand and the winning-post, broke down with a sudden crash, carrying with it all the spectators, between 400 and 500 in number. Several persons were severely injured, but, we believe, no actual loss of life occurred. All possible assistance was rendered to the persons injured, who were conveyed into Epsom for surgical aid.

EPSOM SPRING MEETING.—THURSDAY.

The TRIAL PLATE of 50 sovs.—Bushman, 1. Knight of Gwynne, 2.
TWO-YEAR-OLD STAKES of 10 sovs each.—Buckhound, 1. Catalpa, 2.
The GREAT METROPOLITAN STAKES.
Backbiter 1
Mounseer 2
Cheerful 3

The RAILWAY STAKES of 5 sovs each, with 25 added.—Sir G. Heathcote's *c* by *Gladiator* (Sherwood), 1. Mr. Saddy's *Salute* (Hiet), 2.
The SURREY HUNT STAKES of 3 sovs each, with 20 added.—Mr. Cassidy's *Diligence* (Hiet), 1. Mr. H. Drew's *Master Murray* (Ware), 2.

CROXTON-PARK RACES.—TUESDAY.

The FARMERS' PLATE of £50, and £10 for the second.—Mr. A. N. Larratt's *Granby* (Mafrey), 1. Mr. Go-dsen's *Miss Whitefoot*, 2.
The BELVOIR CASTLE STAKES of 15 sovs each.—Lord Chesterfield nd. *Penang* (Bartholomew), 1. Mr. H. Robinson's *Confidence* (A. Day), 2.
The SCURRY STAKES of 10 sovs each.—Lord Howth's *The Fiddler* (Mr. White), 1. Mr. Geary's *Lucy Neale* (Mr. Clarke), 2.
The GRANBY HANDICAP of 20 sovs each.—Lord Wilton nd. *Backbiter* (Mr. Clarke), 1. Lord Darnley nd. *Cottisford Lass* (Capt. Little), 2.

WEDNESDAY.

The FARMERS' HANDICAP of 50 sovs.—Mr. Godson's *Whitefoot* (Mr. Elwes), 1. Mr. T. Helton's *Midnight* (Mr. White), 2.
The BELLESDON CUP STAKES of 15 sovs each, 20 added.—Mr. Atkinson nd *g* by *Sleight-of-Hand* (Mr. Clark), 1. Mr. W. D. Bromley's *King James* (Owner), 2.
The GOLD CUP, added to a Handicap of 20 sovs each.—Mrs. Taft, 1. Lady Hylda, 2.
The MELTON PLATE was won by *Chorister*.

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—The two most noticeable fluctuations in the betting were the advance of *Raby* to 9 to 1 for the Metropolitan Handicap (somewhat to the prejudice of *Cheerful*), and of *Mavors* to 9 to 1 for the Derby, the former in consequence of his running at Catterick, and the latter owing to a trial in which he is alleged—with what truth we leave others to determine—to have performed very creditably with *The Knight of Avenel* and *The Dutchman*.

GRANBY HANDICAP.
3 to 1 agst *Backbiter* | 6 to 1 agst *Chorister* | 6 to 1 agst Mrs. Taft
BELVOIR CASTLE STAKES.—Even on Penang.
5 to 2 agst *Cheerful* | 10 to 1 agst *Ada Mary* | 16 to 1 agst *Black Eagle*
8 to 1 — *Raby* | 12 to 1 — *Mounseer* | 25 to 1 — *Sir Gilbert*
30 to 1 agst *Valentine*
TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS STAKES.—2 to 1 agst *Bee Hunter*.
CHESTER CUP.
12 to 1 agst *Miss Ann* | 20 to 1 agst *Roland* (t) | 25 to 1 agst *Whim colt*
13 to 1 — *Cossack* | 30 to 1 — *Ellerdale* | 30 to 1 — *John Cossor*
50 to 1 agst *Vesta*.
DERBY.
11 to 2 agst *Bollingbroke* (t) | 9 to 1 agst *Mavors* (t) | 20 to 1 agst *Mildew*
7 to 1 — *Ghillie Callum* | 16 to 1 — *Knight of Avenel* | 66 to 1 — *Compass* (t)

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL.—Major-General George Brown, C.B. K.H., Deputy Adjutant-General on the staff at head-quarters, has been selected by the Duke of Wellington to succeed the late Lieutenant-General Sir J. Macdonald, K.C.B., as Adjutant-General; and Colonel G. A. Wetherell, C.B., K.H., unattached Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, and Deputy Adjutant-General in Canada, has been appointed Deputy Adjutant-General at head-quarters, vice Brown. Major-General Brown commanded the Rifle Brigade for upwards of 17 years, and has seen much service, having served at the capture of Copenhagen, in the Peninsula, the battle of Vimera, passage of the Douro, capture of Oporto, battle of Talavera (where he was wounded through both thighs), at the Bridge of Almeida, Busaco, Sabugal, Fuentes d'Oonor, St. Sebastian, Nivelle, Nive, and Bayonne, battle of Bladensburg, and capture of Washington, and was wounded in the head and groin at Bladensburg, &c.

CAPTAIN AUSTIN'S ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—The four ships forming Captain Austin's Arctic squadron, fitting at Woolwich, are expected to be ready for sea by Saturday, the 27th instant.

SIR JOHN ROSS'S EXPEDITION.—The *Felix*, belonging to the Northern Yacht Club, has been appropriated for the service of Captain Sir John Ross.

REGIMENTAL FRACAS.—It appears that the appointment of an old captain, who lately joined from half-pay a regiment stationed at Portsmouth, has given much umbrage to the junior officers of the corps. They have, in consequence, been in the habit of annoying him in every possible way and occasion. On a recent occasion, the regiment gave a dinner, and some of the juveniles, being elevated with wine, took it into their heads to break open the door of the captain's room, who, on appearing to enquire what they wanted, was saluted with the contents of a tub of water in his face, and otherwise insulted. Two of the ringleaders were placed in arrest, and the whole affair fully investigated. The captain, however, not wishing to press the matter further, the officers were released from arrest with a severe reprimand.

REDUCTIONS IN THE COAST GUARD.—It is estimated that the reductions which have recently taken place in the coast-guard service amount in value to about £45,000 per annum. The principal reduction has been effected in the diminution of the number of revenue cruisers. There are now only forty-eight remaining in commission. The next great item of reduction has been in the mounted preventive men, and in the reformation of the Irish branch of the Irish coast-guard service. About £1200 a year has been saved in office salaries, &c.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The chief feature in the intelligence of the week from Paris, is to be found in the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly, where the discussions and divisions which have taken place on the Paris and Avignon Railway Bill appear to have established—at all events, have recognised—the principle that the formation of railways should be the work of private companies, and not made compulsory on the Government. The discussion was distinguished by a very able and brilliant speech from M. Lamartine, in support of the bill, on Tuesday. A division then took place on M. Grevy's amendment, which proposed that the railway in question should be executed by the State. The amendment was lost by 445 to 205.

M. Darblay then moved, as an amendment, that 50,000*fr.* be granted to the Government to enable them to continue the works to Chalons, which led to a long discussion, and ended by being likewise rejected by a majority of 44.

On Monday the President of the Republic opened the session of the Council-General of Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures, which is holding its sittings in the Palace of the Luxembourg. The President went in an open carriage, having on his right the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and in front the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and of the Interior. The other Ministers followed in separate carriages, and the last was occupied by the orderly officers and aides-de-camp. The Prefect of Police also accompanied the President. The usual escort of dragoons completed the cortege. On the President entering the court of the Luxembourg, the band of the 61st regiment of the line struck up the well-known air composed by his mother, Queen Hortense, "Partant pour la Syrie." The President, who was pretty well received, opened the proceedings by a speech on the advantages of the studies to which the Council was about to dedicate itself.

With respect to the election for a member of the Legislative Assembly for Paris, in the room of M. Vidal, who has taken his seat for the Bas Rhin, M. de Girardin receives little support from the Red Republicans in his candidature. They prefer M. Dupont (de l'Eure), the President of the Provisional Government, whom it is expected they will nominate.

A riot took place at Rouen on Monday night. The local authorities having forbidden the representation of the "Juif Errant," which was announced by the manager of the theatre for that evening, and the pieces substituted offering no attraction, the auditors amused themselves by making the most discordant noises, which induced the Commissary of Police to clear the theatre. The confusion and tumult increased outside, and suddenly appeared among the multitude some well-known Republicans, who shouted "Vive la République!" From the balcony of a *café* voices were heard exciting the crowd below to go on with its manifestation, and the police found it no easy matter to have the balcony evacuated and closed. The military were called out, several arrests were made, and quiet was restored.

Some alarm was created at Limoux, Aude, on Saturday evening, by a disorderly mob marching through the streets singing songs of a revolutionary nature. Upon the troops making their appearance the rioters fled, and the town soon resumed its former state of tranquillity.

The *Monteur Algerien* of the 5th instant states, that the tribes of Maaddid and those of the Ouled-Annaiche, who had taken part in the revolt of Zaatcha, had again committed acts of hostility. A detachment of men belonging to the 38th Regiment had been attacked on their march by a body of foot and horsemen, when a severe combat took place, but which ended in the defeat of the Arabs. Captain Dubouset was killed, and Lieutenant Mangot severely wounded. Several of the Arabs were killed and wounded. General de Barral had sent a strong detachment among the revolted tribes.

A new work, called "Les Montagnards de 1848," has been published by Chenut, containing some curious disclosures of the Revolutionists of February.

SPAIN.

Accounts from Madrid state that the good offices of the King of the Belgians have succeeded in effecting a diplomatic reconciliation between the Governments of Spain and England.

AUSTRIA.

The official *Gazette* of Vienna, published, on the 5th instant, a long list of officers in the Imperial Russian service to whom various orders are given duty free by the Emperor of Austria, in acknowledgment of their services during last year's campaign in Hungary and Transylvania.

By the journals of the same date we learn that there had been an extremely interesting meeting held in Vienna, at which the Minister of Trade presided, of the committee appointed to correspond with the London committee for the Exhibition of 1851. It is estimated that the expenses attending the transmission of the goods, &c., will amount to 40,000 guineas.

ITALIAN STATES.

ROME.—The latest accounts from Rome state that the Pope left Portici (Naples) for Caserta, in the afternoon of the 4th inst., on his return to Rome. His Holiness was to proceed by Sessa, Terracina, Velletri, &c., by easy stages, to the capital of his dominions. The *Osservatore Romano* gives the following as the programme of the solemnities which are to take place on the entrance of his Holiness into Rome:—"The very eminent the Cardinals of the Government Commission, the very eminent the Vicar, the Arch-priest of St. John's, and the clergy will receive his Holiness at the Pavilion before the Basilica of St. John of Lateran, in the presence of the diplomatic body, which will meet his Holiness under the portico of the Basilica. As soon as Divine service shall have been performed, his Holiness will return to his carriage, and, accompanied by the whole cortege and the troops, proceed to St. Peter's, where he will be received by the Sacred College. A "Te Deum" will then be sung, and the Pope will be re-conducted in procession to his apartments."

The ecclesiastic, Gazzola, who had been sentenced to confinement in a monastery for his writings against religion and the Holy See, as also for conduct subversive of ecclesiastical discipline, has escaped from the Castle of St. Angelo, where he was temporarily imprisoned.

PIEDMONT.—The Senate of Turin, on the 5th inst., commenced the discussion on the law for the abolition of ecclesiastical privileges. Ten members spoke in favour of the law, and three against it. The debate was adjourned.

GREECE.

Accounts from Athens of the 28th ult. state that the adjustment of the English claims have proceeded so as to warrant the conclusion that the affair will soon be settled. All the claims which, it seems, be recognised, with the exception of that put forward by M. Pacifico, which the French plenipotentiary does not consider valid. It was stated in the latest previous accounts from Athens, that Baron Gros had had an interview with Mr. Wyse on board the French steamer *La Vidette*. M. Gros objected from the first, it seems, to M. Pacifico's claims. These refer to plate and jewels alleged to have been lost on the day that a mob entered his (M. Pacifico's) house. But it is known that this gentleman had borrowed money from the Athens Bank on the security of certain articles of silver, and has never since redeemed his pledge. Then, as to certain Portuguese bonds alleged to have been burned, it was ascertained that recovery might easily be obtained at Lisbon. Mr. Wyse did not, it seems, deny the exorbitance of M. Pacifico's claims, and if any indemnity is granted in this case, it must be a small one.

Another meeting between M. Gros and Mr. Wyse was to have taken place on the 29th, when a definitive settlement was to take place; respecting which it may be stated, that it was rumoured in Paris, on Monday, that the details of the arrangement had already been received there.

TURKEY.

The most recent news from Constantinople is to the 25th of March. General Dembinski, who was among the Poles on board of the ship that carried some eighty Polish refugees to Malta, would not abandon his friends in distress, but took ship for Broussa, whence he went of his own free will to join Kosuth and his friends in misfortune who have been sent into the interior. There were still six hundred Polish refugees at Schumla. They had been divided into classes, comprising severally those who have consented to serve in the Christian battalions about to be formed in Turkey, those who are willing to serve in the civil administration, and those who desire to stay in Turkey and support themselves. The latter will receive passports for whatever place they may wish to go to. MM. Chandor, Teleki, and Count Bethlem, who had succeeded in making their escape from Arad, had passed through Constantinople.

Major Nicholson, aide-de-camp to the Governor-General of India, had left Constantinople, in company with Gen. Guyon, formerly in the Hungarian service, for Broussa.

The Turkish steamer *Fatih-hut* had left for Gallipoli, to embark two hundred and fifty Italian refugees for Genoa. Her Majesty's steamer *Porcupine* had also arrived from the fleet, with despatches. Immediately after receiving them, the English ambassador had an interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The official relations of Austria and Turkey had not been resumed.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The ship *Earl of Balcarras* has brought papers from the Cape of the 16th of February, from which we learn that the *Glenanner* vessel, which left England on the 12th of December last, arrived in Table Bay on the 12th of February, with the welcome peace message from Earl Grey that he had revoked his former decree consigning convicts to that colony, and that orders would be immediately given for the removal of the *Neptune* to Van Diemen's Land. The military convicts which might arrive there were to be sent to England, if the colonists opposed their landing. This happy intelligence soon spread far and wide, and a special meeting of the Anti-Convict Association was held in the Town Hall on the 14th of February, when resolutions were passed expressive of gratitude to Almighty God for the "happy deliverance of the colony from the convict scourge;" that the usual intercourse with the Government departments should be at once resumed; and that all signs of mourning in the shops and stores should henceforth cease.

It was also determined that a general illumination and a dinner amongst the members of the association should take place upon the day when the *Neptune* should take its departure.

A subscription was opened at the close of the meeting, for the purpose of supplying the convicts with some luxuries for the approaching voyage.

The different religious bodies had also appointed days for public praise and thanksgiving.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The House re-assembled, for the first time after the Easter recess.

OFFICIAL SALARIES.

Mr. DISRAELI gave notice, that, on Lord J. Russell's motion for a committee on public salaries, he should move, by way of amendment, "That this House in possession of all the information requisite to revise the salaries of public functionaries; that committees of inquiry would only lead to delay, and that it is the duty of the Government, on their own responsibility, forthwith to introduce the measures necessary to effect every reduction in the establishments of the country consistent with the efficient discharge of the public service."

Mr. HORSMAN gave notice, that, if the motion passed, he should move that the committee extend its inquiries to the incomes of ecclesiastical dignitaries. (Hear, hear.)

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT BILL.

Sir W. MOLESWORTH asked if it were true that the Governor of South Australia had directed the publication, in an official way, of certain resolutions proposed to the Legislative Council, to the effect—first, that the colonial legislature should have complete control over subjects of a local character; second, that it should be composed of two chambers; third, that all bills passed by both chambers and assented to by the governor should become law; fourth, that the colonial minister should not have the power of disallowing bills on colonial subjects; fifth, that there should be "responsible" government; sixth, that the governor should be dismissed on the address of both houses of the colonial legislature; seventh, that the colonial government should have full control over the waste lands; eighth, that there should be no federal assembly. He also asked whether the governor's dispatch on the subject would be produced before the debate on the subject.

Mr. HAWES said the dispatch had just arrived, and there would be no objection to produce it; but the hon. Baronet attached too much importance to the resolutions referred to, which were only to be proposed in a future council, and by a private member; and how it was that they had been published in an apparently official form, he could not say. He supposed there had been some inadvertence.

On the order of the day for going into Committee of Supply,

NAVY SURGEONS.

Captain BOLDBERO brought forward the case of the navy assistant-surgeons, first presenting a number of petitions in their favour (including several from the medical colleges and the London hospitals), praying that those officers might be removed from the cockpit on board ship—be permitted to mess with the other officers—and placed upon the same footing as surgeons in the army. The question deeply interested the medical men, and the young men in training for the medical profession. That profession felt that it was in too many instances treated with harshness and injustice. Long ago, the Lords of the Admiralty had resolved that the navy surgeons should be placed on the same footing as the army surgeons, but no steps had been taken to carry out that recommendation down to 1839, when a commission had issued a similar recommendation, which had been similarly disregarded. The hon. member moved, "That the accommodation provided for the assistant-surgeons on board her Majesty's ships of war is inadequate and insufficient for securing the full benefit of their professional advice."

Admiral DUNDAS denied that there was any deficiency in candidates for the office, or any difficulty in obtaining qualified persons. He disbelieved that there was any general complaint on the subject, and saw no necessity for altering the system, especially as every care had been taken, where there was space enough, to offer the surgeons every convenience; but, generally, there was no room to give them a separate cabin.

Mr. HUME supported the motion.

The House then divided—

For going into committee of supply	40
Against it	48
Majority against the Government	—8

Captain BOLDBERO's resolution having been put from the chair as a main question, Captain BERKELEY expressed his regret at the result of the division, which he considered was one of the greatest blows ever aimed at the naval service.

Sir F. BARING also deplored the division, though he was not prepared to ask the House to divide again on the resolution which now stood before them as the main question. He thought it, however, most unfortunate that the House should have, by a resolution, held out expectations that he was afraid the Admiralty would be unable to satisfy, on account of the practical difficulties that stood in the way of the arrangements contemplated.

Captain BOLDBERO's resolution was then agreed to.

On the question that the Speaker do leave the chair,

THE LAW OF REPRISALS.—GREECE.

Mr. ANSTERY called attention to the illegality of reprisals when made by officers of her Majesty's navy without the authority of an order in council. The hon. and learned member contended that there was but one authority for making reprisals—her Majesty in council; and he gave it as his legal opinion that the Greek merchants whose vessels had been taken by Admiral Parker would be able to maintain actions and recover damages from that gallant officer and his assistants, unless the reprisals had been warranted by the Queen in council. He did not charge Lord Palmerston with originating the practice of ordering reprisals without authority of an order in council, for Lord Aberdeen had done so in the case of the *Parana*; but he insisted that the old constitutional course and law was, that reprisals could only be made under the authority of her Majesty in council. The hon. and learned member disclaimed all intention of questioning the justice of the reprisals made in Greece, for he considered that there never was a clearer case in favour of the enforcement of our claims.

Lord PALMERSTON could only say that he had been advised, by those by whose legal opinions it was his duty to be guided, that no order in council was necessary or proper for the detention of vessels as pledges. Should it be requisite to go a step further, and to confiscate the vessels detained, then, indeed, it would be necessary to have an order in council for the establishment of a commission to condemn and sell the vessels. With respect to the hon. and learned member's opinion that the Greek merchants would have good grounds for taking legal proceedings against Sir Wm. Parker and his officers, he (Lord Palmerston) could only say that he was advised, and was fully convinced, that all officers of the Crown, naval and military, would be fully justified, as was established in the case of Captain Denman, in executing the orders of the Crown. The noble Foreign Secretary added, that, when the last accounts left Athens, Baron Gros, the French Envoy, was there, engaged in investigating the matters in dispute.

SUPPLY.—ORDNANCE AND NAVY ESTIMATES.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, when Colonel ANSON moved the Ordinance Estimates. The hon. and gallant officer said that, in 1848, the estimates amounted to £2,992,143; in 1849, they had been reduced to £2,632,601. This year the estimates had been still further reduced to £2,434,417. Thus, compared with the year 1848, the estimates of the current year showed a diminution of £557,726; and, compared with 1849, a diminution of £198,184. The hon. and gallant gentleman went *seriatim* through the items of the estimates, and explained the recommendations of the committee of last year, and detailed what had been determined by the Government in pursuance of these recommendations.

After some discussion, several ordinance votes were agreed to, when the committee proceeded with the naval estimates.

On the vote of £137,100 for the salaries of officers, &c. of the Admiralty, Colonel SIBTHORP proposed a reduction in the salaries of the principal functionaries to the amount of £7100. He considered, that, as the landed gentlemen of the country had been compelled to submit to a reduction of income, varying from 25 to 30 per cent., the high-paid functionaries in the various public departments should be made to submit to a like reduction. The gallant member proposed to reduce the First Lord's salary from £4500 to £3000, the next two Lords from £1200 to £1000 each, the next Lord from £1000 to £800, and to strike off the last two Lords altogether, reducing the board to the number of four instead of six Lords. He also proposed to reduce the salaries of the secretaries and other principal officers.

After a short discussion, Colonel SIBTHORP said he would be content to take the sense of the committee on a reduction of £2000 in the salaries of the two Lords.

The committee divided—
For the amendment 33
Against it 110
Majority against the amendment —77

Several naval votes were agreed to, and the Chairman reported progress.

The Brick Duties Bill was amended, and the third reading was fixed for this day.

The Stamp Duties Bill was read a second time *pro forma*, on the motion of the Solicitor-General, who gave notice of his intention to make some alterations before going into Committee.

The Titles of Religious Congregations Bill passed through committee.

Sir W. SOMERVILLE obtained leave to bring in a Bill to Promote the Public Health in Ireland.

Mr. C. LEWIS obtained leave to bring in a Bill to Amend the Laws relating to Parochial Assessment in England.—Adjourned at one o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Mr. THORNBELLY, on the part of Mr. Ewart, postponed to the 7th of May his motion for the Repeal of the Duties on Advertisements.

REPEAL OF THE WINDOW TAX.

Lord DUNCAN submitted to the House the following resolution:—"Whereas the present mode of assessing, levying, and collecting taxes on air and light in England and Scotland interferes most prejudicially with the health and sanitary condition of the inhabitants of Great Britain; therefore it is expedient that the window-taxes should be repealed." The noble Lord, in a speech of considerable length, contended that the window duties were most unequal and partial in their assessment, and were in their operation highly detrimental to the public health. He thought that, at least, the exemption should be extended to houses having less than twelve windows.

Sir DE LACY EVANS seconded the motion.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER felt bound to resist the proposal of any reduction of the window duties at present, because, having already made all the reductions that the finances of the country justified him in proposing, he could not go further this year. When it was considered that there were three million houses in this country, and that only half a million paid the duty, it was pretty evident that the poorer classes were exempt from this taxation. At all events, he could not think of giving up duties that produced £1,800,000 a year, without having a substitute.

Lord Dudley Stuart, Sir G. Pechell, Sir B. Hall, Mr. Hume, and Lord R. Grosvenor supported the motion.

The House then divided.
For Lord Duncan's motion 77
Against it 80
Majority against the motion —3

The result of this division, giving so small a majority to Ministers, was hailed with loud cheers by Lord Duncan and his supporters.

ENCUMBERED ESTATES (IRELAND).

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL renewed his motion for leave to bring in a bill to provide more simple and effectual securities for advances to purchasers of encumbered estates in Ireland. The hon. and learned gentleman explained his measure more in detail than on the evening when he was counted out. The object of the bill was to induce English capitalists to lend their money to Irish purchasers of Irish estates, on the parliamentary security of the land itself. Should the measure fail, it would do no harm, for it would in that case be simply a dead letter; but should it be successful, as he believed it would be, it would be productive of great benefit to Ireland. Since he had first developed his plan, he had received numerous communications from Ireland, all favourable to the general principle and scope of the measure, though some of them did convey important suggestions and modifications in the details. As the bill had been framed with the view of benefiting Irish proprietors, it would not be pressed against the general opinion of Irish representatives, should they determine, after examining its details, to oppose it.

Colonel DUNNE was glad to hear that the measure was designed to benefit Irish proprietors, because he had concluded, from the statement made by the Solicitor-General on a former night, that it was framed to benefit speculators. The honourable and gallant gentleman pointed out a variety of objections to the bill, though he admitted that, should it be made retrospective in its operation, and should its benefit be extended to the present possessors of the land, he might be induced to regard it with more favour.

Sir L. O'Brien, Mr. F. French, Mr. Napier, Mr. Sadleir, and Mr. A. Stafford made a few critical remarks on the measure, after which leave was given to bring in the bill.

The Brick Duties Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The House sat from noon to six o'clock.

COUNTY COURTS EXTENSION.

The second reading of the County Courts Extension Bill—the principle of which is to extend the jurisdiction to £50—was moved by Mr. FITZROY.

Sir G. GREY moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. He considered that a measure which would change the whole character of the County Courts should be approached with the utmost caution. Should this bill pass, the County Courts would no longer be regarded by the public as small debt courts, and the public expenditure would be increased by the additional salaries proposed to be given to the judges and clerks of the courts. He was, therefore, obliged to oppose it.

Mr. EVANS advocated the bill as a judicious extension of the system, which had been found to work well.

Mr. MARTIN opposed it, because he looked on it as the first step towards the abolition of trial by jury.

Mr. CHRISTOPHER supported the principle of the bill, though he thought it might be amended in committee. It would not interfere with trial by jury, because parties who wished it might have a jury in the County Courts.

Mr. B. DENISON said the House appeared to him to be making very rapid strides in hasty legislation. The country had not yet had sufficient experience of the County Courts to warrant the extension of their jurisdiction. In his opinion, a bill of such importance should, at least, be introduced on the responsibility of the Government.

Mr. HENLEY opposed the bill, which he believed would destroy the existing County Courts.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL also opposed the bill. He felt certain that it would, if passed into a law, excite a general outcry throughout the country against the County Courts. He believed that the agitation in favour of the bill had been got up by the clerks in the County Courts, who were interested in the increase of the jurisdiction of the courts.

Mr. Cockburn, Mr. Aglionby, Mr. Hume, Mr. Mullings, Mr. Mitchell, Colonel Thompson, and Mr. Clay spoke in favour of the bill.

The House then divided—
For the second reading 144
Against it 67

Majority for the bill and against the Government .. 77

This division was hailed with loud cheers.
Mr. HUME immediately called on Sir G. Grey to state whether or not he would persist in his opposition after the decided expression of the House.

Sir G. GREY replied that he should certainly oppose the increase of salaries to the judges and clerks of the County Courts proposed by the bill, though he would not persevere in further opposing its progress.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Mr. EWART moved the committee of the Public Libraries and Museums Bill, and stated that he proposed to introduce a clause requiring the assent of two-thirds of the ratepayers before the town councils could levy a rate for the building of libraries and museums.

Colonel SIBTHORP opposed the principle of the measure, and moved as an amendment that the bill be committed that day six months.

Mr. BERNAL and Mr. ANSTAY had been opposed to the second reading of the bill, because they objected to the taxing of the inhabitants of boroughs without their consent; but sufficient concessions had since been made to overcome their objections, and therefore they were willing to go into committee and consider the details of the bill.

Mr. LAW and Mr. BUCK opposed the bill; Mr. BROTHERTON supported it. Lord J. MANNERS reminded the House that, by this measure, libraries and museums would be placed in a more favourable position than churches, schools, and all kinds of charitable institutions.

Mr. OSWALD would vote against going into committee, unless Scotland should be specially excepted from its operation.

Colonel CHATTEBORT should also vote against going into committee, unless Ireland should be excepted from it.

Mr. NEWDEGATE, Mr. SPOONER, and Mr. R. PALMER opposed the bill; Mr. FOX, Mr. MUNTZ, and Mr. HUME supported it.

The House divided:—
For going into committee 99
Against it 64
Majority —35

The House went into committee on the bill, and a discussion on the way in which the assent or dissent of the rated inhabitants of the boroughs should be ascertained continued up to near six o'clock, when progress was reported.

The Parish Constables Bill was read a second time.—Adjourned.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Charitable Trusts Bill.

Mr. GOULBURN feared that this bill would have the effect of hiding from public view the great expenses of the Court of Chancery, and would prevent the carrying out of the principle adopted of late years, of making the Court of Chancery available to all, and at a small cost. He objected to the transfer of small trusts to the County Court judges.

Mr. TURNER said the bill proposed to deal with 24,000 charities of amounts at and under £100 a year, producing an aggregate annual income of £1,000,000, the objects of these charities being as various as it was possible to conceive; and by it charities between £100 and £300 were to be submitted absolutely to a Master, and those from £300 downwards were to be transferred to the jurisdiction of the County Courts. He objected to these tribunals, and thought that a Judge of the Court of Chancery sitting in chambers, or the Commissioners of Bankruptcy, would be a better medium of jurisdiction than either of those proposed by the bill. The true remedy for the evils sought to be cured would be in a thorough reform of the Court of Chancery.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL would not deny that the best remedy would be a thorough reform of the Court of Chancery; but that desirable consummation was, he feared, very far off; and, in the meantime, he thought something should be done to have these small charitable trusts cheaply and properly administered.

After a few observations from Mr. R. PALMER and Mr. AGLIONBY, the bill was read a second time.—Adjourned at a quarter to twelve o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

Their Lordships reassembled for the first time after the Easter recess, and sat about half an hour.

Earl GREY presented the report of the Commission on the Fine Arts, by command of her Majesty.

Several noble Lords presented petitions against Post-Office labour on Sunday. Earl GREY postponed the third reading of the Convict Prisons Bill, in consequence of the absence of a noble Lord who was desirous, as he understood, of making some observations on the subject.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES BILL.

Mr. ADDERLEY said he understood that certain despatches had been received from Van Diemen's Land in favour of the double chamber, and he would ask the noble Lord (John Russell) if he would have any objection to lay those despatches on the table previous to the resumption of the adjourned debate on the Australian Colonies Bill?

Lord J. RUSSELL said, one despatch had arrived, and it would be laid on the table before the adjourned debate.

DEANERIES OF HEREFORD AND SALISBURY.

In reply to a question by Mr. HORSMAN, Lord JOHN RUSSELL said, with respect to the Deanery of Salisbury, there was a bill before the House proposing to raise the income of that deanery to £1500 a year. According to the existing Act, Deans were not entitled to more than £1000 a year, but his intention was to propose to the House in committee on that bill, that the Dean of Wells, and the executors of the Dean of Salisbury should receive £1500, they having entered office upon that understanding. But with respect to future Deans of Wells and Salisbury, he should propose that they should receive only £1000 a year. He did not think it would be possible for the Government to get a Dean for a less salary than that.

Mr. HORSMAN wished to know whether the Dean who was about to be appointed was to have £1000 a year or more.

Lord J. RUSSELL was understood to say that the income of the new Dean would be only £1000 per annum.

THE VERNON GALLERY AND MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.

Mr. HUME inquired, whether the Government had considered, or is willing to consider, the expediency of retaining the Vernon collection of paintings in the National Gallery, and accommodating the Royal Academy with rooms in Marlborough House? The House would recollect that a Committee, which had reported upon the subject of the National Gallery, had recommended that that building should be kept entirely for the exhibition of pictures, and that the Royal Academy should be provided for in another manner.

Lord J. RUSSELL replied, that the only question was, as to what could best be done at the present moment with respect to the Vernon collection; and it appeared far more easy to the Government to make Marlborough House a place for the temporary reception of these pictures, than to fit it up for the exhibitions of the Royal Academy.

PARLIAMENTARY VOTERS, &c. (IRELAND) BILL.

The House having gone into committee upon this bill, Lord CASTLEREAGH intimated that it was not his intention to proceed with the amendment of which he had given notice, increasing the franchise from £10 to £12.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, advertising to the proposition which had been made respecting the equalisation of the numbers of electors in boroughs, that it was open to many objections. There were two modes in which it could be carried into effect, and they were as different in principle as they probably would be in detail. The one would be by adding many large towns to existing boroughs, and thus to divide all considerable towns into borough constituencies. The other would be only to add towns to very small boroughs, in order to furnish them with a sufficient number of electors. The proposition made by the hon. member for Roscommon (Mr. F. French) proceeded on the former of these plans. The principle appeared to him (Lord J. Russell) to be very objectionable, and would be very injurious in its operation. The second plan embraced those cases where, there being but a small number of electors in particular boroughs, it was proposed to add adjacent towns and villages to them, so as to make up the deficiency. Now, although that certainly would be the safest plan to adopt, he was afraid it would lead to a considerable conflict of opinion, and give rise to many general questions of local difficulty. It would, in the first place, be a matter of some difficulty to decide which were small boroughs, and in the next to determine what villages should be added to them. The proposal, therefore, required much more consideration at the hands of the Government than it had yet been able to afford it; and the Government thought that, under these circumstances, it would be much better to adopt the bill as it stood, and leave that question to be considered in a future session. In disposing of these matters, honourable gentlemen who had devoted some attention to them had fallen into error as to the number of parties who would be entitled under a £10 and an £8 clause, but from returns which his right hon. friend the Secretary for Ireland had just received, it was quite clear that considerable misapprehension prevailed on the subject. Still, he did not dispute that when this bill passed, the number of electors in certain boroughs would be greatly reduced; but, under all circumstances, he felt that it would be better to leave this question of the division of boroughs and towns to be disposed of on some future occasion.

Mr. MONSELL pointed out that when the bill passed there would be twenty-seven boroughs in Ireland with a constituency under 300; while at this time in England there were only ten boroughs with a constituency under 300. Portarlington contained a constituency of 150; but when this bill passed it would be reduced to eighty-six, and he put it to the House whether eighty-six persons ought to possess the right of returning a member to that House.

After a few words from Colonel DUNNE and Mr. French, the discussion of the clauses occupied the House the rest of the sitting.—Adjourned.

THE THEATRES.

HER MAJESTY'S.

On Tuesday last, the Queen, the Prince Consort, and the Royal children honoured this theatre with their presence; and not the least gratifying circumstance in the performance was to observe the effect produced by "Il Barbiere di Siviglia" in the Royal box; her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert repeatedly giving the most gracious and marked applause to M^{rs}. Sontag. The first scene of "Il Barbiere" passed with considerable applause; but the impatience of the public to behold the great *Rosina* was very strongly marked, and her entrance was hailed with the loudest applause. The absolute silence that followed during the introduction of "Una voce" was the more striking when contrasted with the enthusiastic applause which marked the conclusion of the first musical phrase; and from that moment the *encores* and the recalls were constant. Since her trip to Paris, the voice of Madame Sontag having gained strength, has a more mellowed sweetness. Her store of notes appears inexhaustible, when she pours forth her vocal embellishments so infinitely varied—some sparkling, playful, and fresh as the warbling of a lark, and relieved by harmonic traits and pathetic tones which strongly appeal to the feelings.

The part of *Bartolo* is essentially the creation of Lablache. Beaumarchais never wrote it; Rossini never composed it. With him it will die. Fortunately, it still lives in all its matchless charm, to the delight of the public, and to the enduring honour of the great Neapolitan whose genius has nobly rescued so many secondary parts from their supposed inferiority. The improvement of Beletti and of Calzolari since last year was most signally marked in the "Barbiere." The whole performance was a scene of constant excitement. It was with difficulty, and after prolonged resistance, that M^{me}. Sontag escaped singing Rode's variations three times. Recalled with the other singers at the fall of the curtain, she was also once more recalled alone.

On Thursday, Madame Sontag appeared, for the first time in this country, in the part of *Zerlina*, in Mozart's *chef d'œuvre*, "Don Giovanni." Of her efficiency in this character, with her native music, the highest expectations were entertained: they were not only realised, but surpassed. She played with that timid *espieglerie* which is the characteristic of the part; and "to the manner born" with traditional respect for the score; she maintained "the magic of sound" by the pure simplicity and pathetic sympathy of her utterance. Only those who have witnessed her performance of *Susannah* in the "Nozze," can form an adequate idea of her interpretation of *Zerlina*.

Parodi, in her tragic part, showed herself a worthy pupil of the great Pasta; and Giuliani gave its full value and a real charm to the character of *Eleira*—so essential to the score, but so unfavourable to the performer. The great basso, Coletti, has returned from St. Petersburg, with the full plenitude of his former voice, but a much better actor in *Don Giovanni*, in which last year he lacked the elasticity and reckless gaiety so characteristic of the part. Calzolari was loudly applauded and justly encoined in "Il mio tesoro." The two great dancers, Carlotta Grisi and Marie Taglioni, were rewarded by the warmest greetings, for the fitting homage they paid the great Mozart, by dancing his "Zarabanda." The choruses were in admirable voice, and "Viva la Libertà" sung with the dramatic assistance of the mute mimic performers, was one of the great successes of the night. That which surpassed all others was "Vedra Carina."

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

Grisi and Mario's return on Tuesday night, in Donizetti's opera, based on Victor Hugo's terrible drama, "Lucrèce Borgia," was hailed with peals of applause. The tenor was first recognised in the prologue, and tumultuous cheering greeted him; it seemed as if the audience would never cease from the expression of their welcome. He sang his opening air, "Di pescatore ignobile," to perfection; and in the cantabile, in the trio of the second act, with Grisi and Tamburini, his vocalisation was equally beautiful; but indulgence was claimed for him before the third act, on the ground of sudden hoarseness, and he omitted the interpolated air of "Lillo." In the death scene, which he acted with such truthful feeling and power, there were not the slightest traces of hoarseness. Grisi's *Lucrèce* was a grand triumph. Her vocal and histrionic genius shone supremely from the *aria d'entrata*, to the concluding outburst of mingled grief and despair at *Genaro's* death. Her novel cadences in the cavatina were exquisitely executed, and the delicacy of her piano passages could not be surpassed.

Tamburini's fine acting of the Duke contributes much to the general effect; and it is to be regretted that his vocal powers are not equal now for the execution of the grand scena.

M^{lle}. de Meric was to have appeared as *Orsini*, but bills were posted at the doors, announcing her indisposition, and the substitution of M^{lle}. D'Oskolski, whose name appears on the prospectus, and who sang in the National Anthem on the opening night. To state that this *début* was a complete failure, scarcely suffices, without the expression of our amazement at the hardy attempt to introduce an *artiste* for whose pretensions we, in vain, sought a single redeeming point, to justify such a trial after Albani and Angri have been heard in *Orsini*. Some of the most striking situations in the opera were ruined by this disastrous exhibition, which, although received with the polite forbearance of profound silence, it would be perilous to repeat. Tagliafico, Polonini, Lavia, Mei, Rache, and Salvi, gave effect to the subordinate parts; but M^{rs}. Marini's thundering tones were missed in the Chorus of Masques; and it was curious that neither Formes or Zelger was chosen to replace the Italian basso.

"Norma," and the second and third acts of "Masaniello," with the new tenor Tamberlik, and Massol, were Thursday night's entertainments. Mario's cold preventing the performance of "I Puritani," as originally announced. In "Norma" there were some changes from last season's cast. M^{lle}. Vera succeeding M^{lle}. Corbani in *Adalgisa*, M^{lle}. Cotti replacing Madame Bellini in *Clotilde*, Formes being *Oroveso*, vice Marini, and Tamberlik following Salvi in *Pollio*.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert honoured the performance of "Norma" with their presence; the house was quite crowded. Grisi was again in magnificent voice, and created more than the usual *furor*. The new tenor not only confirmed every favourable impression that was raised by his *Masaniello*, but he proved himself to be the first *Pollio* ever heard in this country, Rubini and Donzellì not excepted. Anything more masterly than his opening cavatina was never heard, and he acted and sang throughout with passionate energy and the most refined taste. The Druid High Priest of Formes was also a great hit: his version is totally different from the Italian mode of playing the character; he invested it with German mysticism, until the feelings of the father found vent in the concluding scene on the discovery of *Norma's* dishonour, and then Formes displayed tragic powers of a most elevated school. His powerful organ told grandly in the concerted pieces. M^{lle}. Vera's *Adalgisa* was highly interesting, and she sang with the greatest expression and taste. The first duo between her and Grisi was perfect—the second one will gain by more rehearsals. On the whole, the *ensemble* was the most finished interpretation of

"Norma" ever given in this country—the working up of the crescendo by Costa, in the finale was transcendently grand.

ST. JAMES'S.

The season for French plays commenced on Friday, and was inaugurated with M. Scribe's "Bertrand et Raton," the character of *Bertrand* being confided to M. Samson, its original representative, when first produced at Paris, in 1833. His performance was throughout admirable for its sangfroid and courtly bearing.

On Monday, "L'Ecole des Vieillards" was presented, the part of *Danville* being performed by M. Samson. M^{lle}. Denain also made her first appearance, as *Horlense*, and as *Rosaline* in "Les Projets de Mariage," in which latter piece M. Samson took the part of *Pedro*. The house was well attended.

STRAND.

We have seldom seen a new piece which has so well pleased us as a drama in one act, produced at this theatre on Monday, under the title of "Poor Cousin Walter." It is by Mr. Paigrave Simpson, who has shown in it much skill and facility in both modes of dramatic dialogue: he passes from grave to gay with the utmost ease and tact. The general style, too, is one of remarkable elegance. The scene is laid in Hazelton Hall, in the middle of the 17th century, the present possessor of which, *Jasper Hazelton* (Mr. Norton), has come into possession of the estate by means of a forged will; but, to ease his conscience, has brought up his brother's son, the rightful heir, in a way to command his gratitude. The boy is of a pure and generous disposition, but esteemed as a bumpkin by himself and his cousin, *Philip* (Mr. W. Farren, jun.), whose better fortune, as the son of *Jasper*, makes him a little vain. But he is romantic withal; and being in love with *Helen* (Mrs. Stirling), the daughter of *Sir Argent Buoyant, Knt.* (Mr. G. Cooke), feels desirous to learn whether he is loved for himself alone or for his wealth. *Philip* accordingly practises a *ruse* upon the lady, and passes himself off as his "poor cousin *Walter*," much, as we may readily conceive, to the annoyance of his father. Matters, too, are soon hurried to a crisis. *Sir Argent*, fond of surprises, makes a sudden visit, with his daughter, to the hall, and both are soon introduced to the real "poor cousin *Walter*," whom, however, they mistake for the son. It is a case of love at first sight; and, in a delicately managed scene, the situation is beautifully brought out. But the secret of *Jasper's* fraud is known to *Helen*, from the written death-bed confession of an accomplice in it; and, being a girl of generous principles, she resolves upon testing her lover, by showing him the document and insisting upon the restoration of his rights to the defrauded heir. In this way the important evidence alluded to comes into *Walter's* keeping. Strong and wild is the temporary struggle he suffers; but after a while he is enabled to resist the temptation, and commits the proof of his uncle's guilt to the flames. Mistaking the young man's motive with his person, poor *Helen* gives up all for lost. But an *éclaircissement* soon takes place; *Philip* and his father enter to explain the mistake that she has made between the cousins; and, in so doing, places the conduct of *Walter* in its true light. To him, therefore, she now devotes herself without any moral reservation whatever; and, after admonishing *Jasper* of his guilt, and reconciling *Philip* to his disappointment, concludes the piece with appropriate reflections, and leaves the audience in a state of delightful sentiment.

This little drama was capital acted. Mr. G. Cooke, who made his first appearance here, will prove a great acquisition to the company. Mr. Leigh Murray acted with modesty and force; his delineation of the rustic gentleman was perfect; while Mrs. Stirling, in the heroine, performed with that exquisite propriety which distinguishes her best impersonations. It is needless to add that the piece was perfectly successful.

MARYLEBONE.

T. is theatre has been re-opened under the management of Mr. Kinloch and Mr. Stirling. On Monday "Othello" was performed; Mr. Brooke performing the *Moor*, and Mrs. Seymour *Desdemona*.

DRURY-LANE.

"The Passing Cloud," a domestic drama, in two long and elaborate acts, by Mr. Bayle Bernard, produced on Monday night, is one of the best, if not the very best, of that gentleman's productions. In it he has aimed at, and in a great measure attained to, the dignity of a poet. The plot is simple, perhaps common and melodramatic enough; but the tone, colouring, and general purpose entitle it to be considered as a work of art. In some part, it is an experiment on the public taste, and calls for more patience than English audiences are willing to accord; but, in these particulars, the latter need educating into that appreciation of dialogue which distinguishes the French and German theatre. The scene is laid in Bremen, where one *Albert Hasmann* (Mr. Vandenhoff) has risen into wealth and importance as a merchant and magistrate, being blest with a taste for the arts, and living in elegant style, with one *Linda*, his supposed daughter (Miss Vandenhoff). *Linda* is, however, the child of his brother, *Moritz* (Mr. Anderson), who, many years ago, at Leghorn, was convicted of felony, and condemned to the galleys. *Linda* is, however, unconscious of all this, being brought up from her cradle by her uncle, in ignorance of her parentage, and as his own child. But it happens that *Moritz*, although a criminal, is yet human: impelled by his paternal feelings, he dares to escape, and at length arrives at Bremen, and, as a ragged wanderer, receives benevolence from his daughter, much to his joy, which, however, he permits not to betray him into a declaration of their relationship. Here he perceives, as a disguised guest in his brother's house, the accomplice of his crime—one *Colonel Rheinberg*—and, at his personal peril, remains on the spot, to baffle his evil purposes. In possession of a certified copy of *Moritz's* trial and conviction, this wretch causes the Christian name to be altered, and showing it to the daughter, as a record of her supposed father's infamy, bargains for her hand as the price of his silence. Just in the moment of his success, *Moritz* rushes in, and, at the sacrifice of his life, rescues his daughter from the fatal alliance. The beauty of the dialogue and situations held the audience enraptured, and extorted the loudest applause. The elaborate development, however, of inner feeling attempted by the author was towards the end misunderstood; but this inconvenience was but indeed as "a passing cloud" in the course of representation, and the piece concluded triumphantly. When some needful reductions are made, there is no doubt that the success of this really fine drama will be complete.

On Wednesday, Mr. Bunn took his annual benefit at the St. James' Theatre, on which occasion Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean appeared in "King René's Daughter," and M. Samson and M^{lle}. Demain in the comedy of "Le Jeu de l'Amour et du Hasard." Other entertainments were also provided; Mr. Bunn delivering the first part of his "Monologue," Mr. Benedict and Mr. Lindsay Sloper performing on two grand pianos, and M^{lle}. Carlotta Grisi and M. Silvain dancing the "Truandaise."

A theatrical demonstration in favour of the Royal Exposition of 1851 is advertised as about to be made at SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE. One night's benefit in its favour is proposed, under the patronage and presidency of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. It is recommended that the artists engaged should second the good intentions of the management, by volunteering their gratuitous services on the occasion.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "SAPPHO."

(From a Correspondent.)

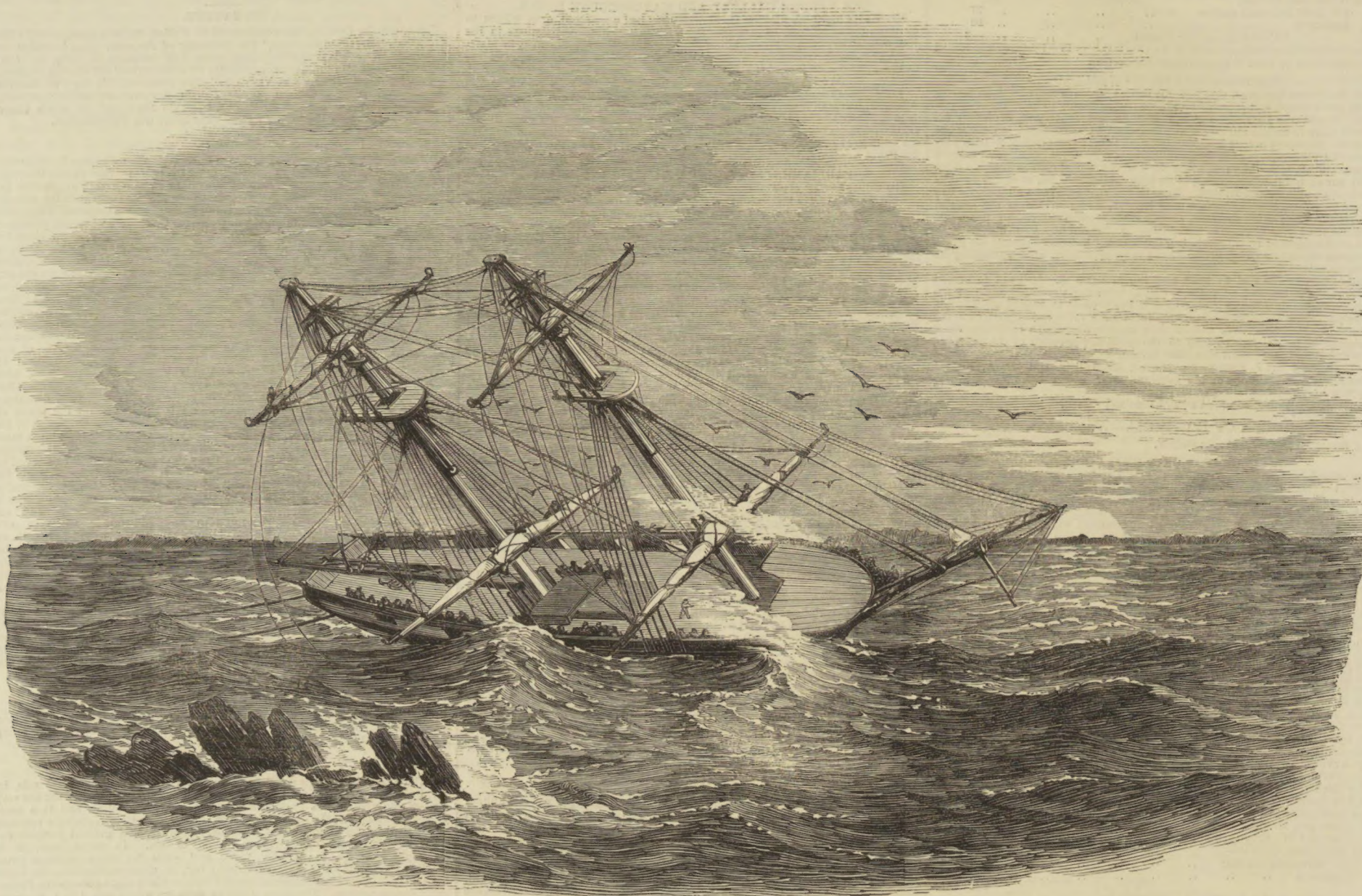
On the morning of the 9th of December last, H.M.S. *Sappho* struck on the Main Reef, off the coast of Honduras. She is the only vessel ever saved from total shipwreck off that reef, which is one of the most dangerous in the world; and as the saving of her is an instance of what English sailors can do by exertion and perseverance, in the midst of difficulties and distressing circumstances, we subjoin a short narrative of her miraculous escape.

The *Sappho* sailed from Belise on the 3rd of December, with a great deal of sickness and fever on board, ninety cases being reported by the surgeon in the short space of three weeks. After her sailing the weather set in with a dark, gloomy, and threatening appearance; the rain began to fall in torrents—not like heavy rain in temperate regions, but as if a flood-gate were opened above, from whence it descended like a vast sheet of water—it blowing strong, with violent squalls. This bad weather lasted three days, during which time the skies were perfectly overcast, and no observation could be obtained to ascertain the ship's position. She was accordingly swept by the currents (which run with great locality, and are constantly changing in their direction), on the morning of the 6th, on the rocks.

As daylight broke, weak and disabled as we were from sickness, we discovered our awful position—a wild reef, extending around us for miles, with the seas breaking over, some small low islands in the far distance, and still further, and just discernible, what seemed to be the main-land. Anchors were laid out, masts and yards struck, her water started, her guns and heavy articles thrown overboard, &c.; and, after thirty hours, the officers and ship's company succeeded in heaving her off into deep water, with the loss of her rudder, false keel, and part of her cutwater. The sick men had at first been sent to one of the small islands, and placed under canvas, with the surgeon to provide for their safety.

She was now afloat, but anchored amongst rocks, with the open ocean rolling in on her, without a rudder. Her position was one of such peril, that, had her cables parted, she must have gone on the rocks, broken up in a hundred pieces, and probably her whole crew would have perished.

Next day it came on to blow very hard in the first part of the night, and continued until daylight; the ship pitching her bows and stern under, and straining herself in every part. The anchors came gradually home. As the day broke, we discovered we had drifted very much; the reef, and the breakers beating furiously over them, was not more than twenty or thirty yards from our stern, and we probably struck the ground as we surged. Our only chance of safety now was in getting the ship farther out, which, by the perseverance and good conduct of all, in the face of an open sea, we succeeded in doing towards the forenoon, and then slipped our in-shore anchors. We had got our rudder on board, and repaired it, and succeeded, during a lull, in shipping it just at the moment; for, had it been delayed an hour, we should have been lost. Next morning, at daylight, it came on to blow again very hard, with a tremendous swell and sea from the ocean. We employed ourselves in securing and getting everything ready to slip our cables, and make sail. At 8 a.m., we were all in a state of anxiety, riding with a hempen cable ahead, and a chain, on one of which two anchors were backed. In a few moments, the hempen cable parted, the ship was drifting fast on the rocks, bringing home the other, and certain destruction awaiting her, and perhaps all on board, when Commander



H. M. S. "SAPPHO," ON THE MAIN REEF AT HONDURAS.

Michell called every one on deck to "save ship." In this last extremity, all exerted themselves: a spring was got on the remaining cable, the foretop-sail loosed and sheeted home, jib ready to hoist, men ready to cut away the gaskets of foresail and maintop-sail, &c. The chain-cable was slipped, and, providentially, the ship casted the right way; sail was got on, and she weathered the reef and rocks by about half a cable's length, the ship's company giving three cheers. It came on to blow a gale in the afternoon, but we ran to the southward, and secured the vessel in a safe anchorage; afterwards, we recovered everything that had been hove overboard, including guns, anchors, cables, &c.

On this iron-bound shore, visited so often by gales, and where such rapid and dangerous currents exist, the fragments of shipwreck, of boats, and spars washed around, bespeak to the advancing sailor former disasters. Hardly a year passes that some vessel is not lost. From the testimony of all sea-faring people on that coast, her Majesty's ship *Sappho* is the only one ever saved. Her preservation is attributable to the perseverance, discipline, and exertions of all under trying circumstances.

(It is stated in the *Times* of Monday last, that a court-martial is expected to be held on Commander Michell, for having got the *Sappho* ashore, as stated in the above communication. Our Sketch shows the *Sappho* ashore on the morning of December 9th, with her anchors laid out astern. Small low islands are seen in the distance, and in the foreground are low rocks, with seas breaking over.)

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN TRINIDAD.

THE town of Port-of-Spain has just been the scene of a more destructive fire than has occurred in the island since the memorable conflagration of 1808. The fire broke out on the night of Thursday, March 7, at half-past eleven o'clock, in that portion of the extensive premises which fronted the west side of Marine-square, and lay between the stores of Messrs. Wainwright and Co. and Mr. R. S. Darling. The premises consumed consisted of a long one-storied building rented by shopkeepers, one portion being occupied as a grog-shop. In some section of these tenements the fire originated, it is supposed in the rear of the kitchen of Mr. Craddock's hotel. Some passers-by were attracted to the spot by a blaze, and gave the first alarm; the inmates of the hotel had retired to rest, and so rapidly did the flames extend, that Mrs. Craddock and

her family found their retreat cut off by the staircase being in flames, and had to be lowered from the front gallery in a sheet. Ere this, however, the alarm bells of Trinity Church and the Roman Catholic Cathedral had been sounded, and the engines of the Town Council had arrived and were set to work; as also the Ordnance engine, and the garrison engine, with a large number of the 72nd Regiment, under the command of Colonel Murray, who did great service by the systematic way in which they set to work in arresting the flames. The 2nd West India were also in attendance, forming a strong guard, to protect the property from plunder. The police had previously arrived; Mr. Stipendiary Magistrate Cadiz was also early on the spot, as were Mr. Johnston, the Colonial Secretary; Mr. C. W. Warner, the Attorney-General; Mr. J. Cockerton, the Clerk and Treasurer of the Town Council, &c.

It soon became evident that Messrs. Wainwright's store, with 1000 barrels of flour, and the premises immediately adjoining, would be destroyed; and great exertions were made to prevent the flames reaching the stores of Mr. Kavanagh and Mr. R. S. Darling, which were filled with combustibles. By almost superhuman efforts the fire was stopped in these two directions, and limited to the premises we have described, which were reduced to a mass of smouldering ruins: for, at the moment we write, says the *Port of Spain Gazette*, the fire is not yet extinct; the engines still continue to pour in floods of sea-water from the wharf hard by, and the crews of some of the vessels in the harbour are pulling down the walls of the upper story of the building still standing—the lintels of the windows being yet on fire, and giving cause of apprehension that a spark carried by the wind into some of the adjacent lumber-yards might occasion yet further destruction. The danger seemed so imminent to the whole block of buildings, which included, amongst others, the premises occupied by the Ordnance Department, in which were a large quantity of shells, loaded for use, and other Ordnance stores—and the premises of Messrs. Wood and Campbell, which contained a quantity of turpentine and several hogsheads of lucifer matches—that the shells were taken into Marine Square for removal, if necessary; and the area soon presented an extraordinary assemblage of mercantile and warlike stores, household furniture, trunks of apparel, &c., guarded by sentries from the 2nd West India Regiment. The Government Bonding warehouse, in the next block of buildings, was opened, and the rum, amounting to eighty puncheons, rolled to the quay, to be plunged into the sea, if requisite. The conduct of the lower orders exceeds all praise; nearly all the puncheons of rum were rolled away by women, and they performed at least an equal half of the duty in supplying the engines; and the next day scarcely an article was

missing. The 'swell mob' were fortunately 'out of town,' angling down the coast."

The loss sustained cannot be estimated at less than £12,000 sterling. It is divided between Doctor Garcia (the owner of the whole of the buildings consumed), Messrs. J. P. Wainwright and Co., Mr. Craddock (proprietor of the Crown and Anchor Hotel), Mr. N. Garcia, Mr. Carrera (owner of the grog-shop), and Miss Parker, and other owners of the retail shops. Mr. Craddock is stated to be utterly ruined—a few articles of merchandise being all of his property saved.

Had the northerly wind, which blew so hard for several nights previously been blowing at the time of the fire, no human effort could have saved the whole block of buildings—perhaps the whole range intersected by the Promenade from west to east side of Marine-square. There was no fresh water to be got, except from a well or two, which soon pumped dry; and, but for the contiguity of the salt-water of the Guelph, the engines would have been utterly useless. The masters and "jack tars" of the merchant vessels in the harbour landed immediately that the disaster was visible from the shipping, and rendered most essential assistance.

Our Illustration is from a Sketch obligingly forwarded from Port of Spain by Mr. M. J. Cazalon.

MONUMENT TO MAJOR ELDRED POTTINGER, C.B., IN BOMBAY CATHEDRAL.

This very interesting memorial, from the chisel of Mr. Baily, R.A., has just been placed in Bombay Cathedral. We give a copy of the inscription, which is a simple and graceful record of Major Pottinger's eminent services at a critical period of our Indian history:—



MONUMENT TO THE LATE MAJOR ELDRED POTTINGER, C.B., BY BAILY.

This Monument, erected by Public Subscription, to the Memory of MAJOR ELDRED POTTINGER, C.B.,

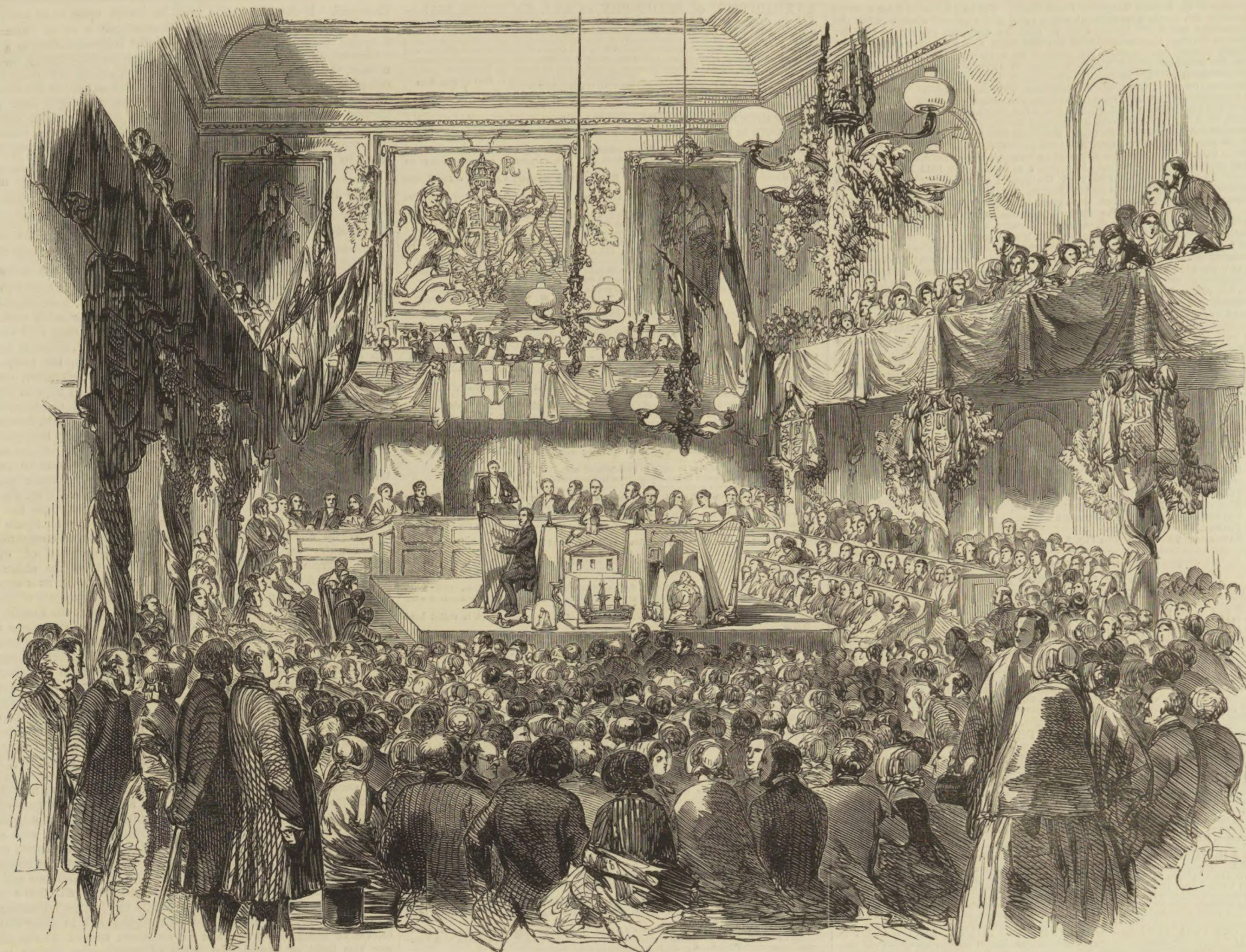
of the Bombay Regiment of Artillery, is placed in the Cathedral Church of Bombay, in token of the admiration and respect in which his character as a soldier, and conduct as a man, are held by his friends in the Presidency.

Major Pottinger's successful defence of Herat, his gallant bearing and judicious counsel, throughout the eventful period of the British reverses in Afghanistan, are recorded in the annals of his country, and need no eulogium here. The recollection of those services must add to the regret universally felt that one whose early career gave such promise of future eminence and distinction, should have found a premature grave. Compelled by long exertion, anxiety, and fatigue in the discharge of his public duties, to seek a change of climate for the recovery of his health, Major Pottinger was returning to England, via China, when he was attacked by a malignant fever at Hong-Kong, where he died on the 13th of November, 1843, aged 32 years.

SIR JOHN ROSS' EXPEDITION IN SEARCH OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN, BY PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION.—The amount required for the outfit of the Expedition, including provisions for two years, is only £3000—less than half the sum subscribed in New York for the same humane object. The Hudson's Bay Company have set on foot this Expedition; it is sanctioned by the Admiralty, and rather than it should be abandoned from want of funds, Sir John Ross has devoted to its equipment the proceeds of his half-pay and two pensions accruing during his absence; but it is confidently hoped that the public will come forward with subscriptions sufficient to render unnecessary this pecuniary sacrifice, in addition to his gratuitous personal services.



GREAT FIRE AT PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD.



THE CARDIFF ATHENÆUM EISTEDDFOD.

THE CARDIFF ATHENÆUM EISTEDDFOD.

SOME time since, the Committee of the Athenæum at Cardiff arranged to hold an Eisteddfod in the Town-Hall (the use of which was kindly granted by the Mayor), and to offer prizes for competition on various subjects. The night of Wednesday week was fixed for this interesting meeting, when the spacious Hall was filled to overflowing with company.

The Hall was decorated for the occasion with the flags from ships in the port, and with the colours of the Royal Glamorgan Militia; and an abundance of evergreens, chiefly laurel, were disposed in the room. Galleries were erected for the purpose, and the columns supporting them entwined with various colours. On the central lamp-stem was placed a bunch of leeks, emblematical of the Principality, tastefully arranged. In front of the chairman and other judges of the performance was a large table covered with mechanical objects—such as clocks, under glass shades; a model of a coal-shipping stage; a transit instrument, &c. The prize harp occupied the right end of the table.

From the turret of the hall a Union-Jack floated throughout the day; and in the evening there was a fine star beautifully illuminated with gas and surrounded with wreaths, evergreens, &c.

The fitting-up of the interior, the ornaments, &c., was superintended by Messrs. Bernard, James, and Bowen, and Honorary Secretary, Mr. Smart.

After the amateur band had played several pieces of music, the chair was taken by Whitlock Nicholl, of Adamsdown, Esq., President of the Institution, upon the motion of W. D. Bushell, Esq., seconded by Charles Vachell, Esq., Mayor of Cardiff.

The President opened the proceedings, by congratulating the company upon the success of the Institution, and then called upon Mr. Bernard, C. E., who delivered a prologue, which he had written for the occasion. The most complimentary marks of approval greeted Mr. Bernard at the conclusion of his address.

The distribution of prizes then commenced; Mr. W. D. Bushell delivering the first prize "For the best essay (not exceeding eight octavo pages) on the advantages and duties of Athenæums." Seven communications had been received; and the successful competitor was Mr. W. Christopher, of Newport; the next in merit being by "W. Galsford, journeyman carpenter and joiner, at the Bute

Docks, Cardiff." The prize was advertised to be Macaulay's "History of England;" but the committee substituted Mr. Layard's account of his "Researches in Nineveh."

The second prize was presented by Mr. Charles Vachell, Mayor of Cardiff, to Mr. Levi Marks, for the best recitation from Shakspeare, which was loudly applauded, the prize being "Campbell's Poets," 2 vols.

The third prize was for "the best model or piece of mechanism," the production of the exhibitor. The first prize had been awarded to Mr. Clements, locomotive superintendent of the Taff Vale Railway; but Mr. Clements being one of the judges, declined to take the prize, and received instead, from Mr. W. D. Bushell, a crown of laurel. The prize, two lithographic views of the Britannia Tubular Bridge, was then given to Mr. I. T. Barry, of Cardiff, for a handsomely-finished miniature steam-engine.

The fourth prize, a volume of the new edition of the "Encyclopædia Metropolitana," was awarded to Mr. H. Grant, of Duke-street, for a well-finished striking clock.

Mr. Bushell then presented to Mr. William Williams, for a figure of Mercury, a handsomely bound copy of Milton's works.

To a youth named John Rees, for a small brass cannon, and a new kind of water stand, was presented Beckmann's "History of Inventions."

Messrs. Avis, Price, and Rogers were then rewarded with "The Book of British Song," for some fine glee-singing.

The sixth prize, "Melodia Divina," a volume of Sacred Melodies, was awarded to Mr. John Roberts, of Newtown, Montgomeryshire, for his performance on the violin, in competition with Mr. Mark's ophicleide.

The sixth prize, for penmanship, a copy of Sir Richard Phillips's "Million of Facts," was given to a little boy, aged eleven years, named William Jones, a pupil at Mr. Evans's Academy, North-road, Cardiff.

Next was awarded the Cardiff Town Prize, a handsome harp, offered by the inhabitants of Cardiff. It was made by Mr. Bassett Jones, harp-maker to her Majesty and the Prince of Wales; and is said to be an excellent specimen of skill. The condition which competitors were to observe was, to play Welsh airs on the triple (Welsh) harp. The best player was to have the new harp above advertised to; and the second best a purse containing three guineas.

Mr. Llewellyn Williams, of Caerphilly, then came on, having suspended round his neck a gold harp, which, we believe, he won at Abergavenny Eisteddfod. He played the favourite old Welsh air, "Pen-yrhaw," with Parry's variations. Next came Mr. John Roberts, who played another favourite air, called "Llwynon," with variations—time, *ad libitum*. And thirdly, came the last and least—namely, John Roberts, Junior, a youth thirteen years of age, and the orphan nephew of the previous player. He selected the popular air of "Jenny Jones," with variations. A fourth player, having heard his competitors, declined to enter the lists with them.

The first prize was given to Mr. Roberts, and the second to Mr. Williams.

Mr. Charles Vachell then addressed the company; and, after the prizes had been handed to the successful competitors, a vote of thanks to the President was passed; three cheers were given for him, for the Mayor, for the Ladies, for the Committee, and for the Queen. The band then played the National Anthem; and, at about a quarter past eleven, the vast assembly slowly separated.

proved, it would be almost impossible to transport such a ponderous mass to the sea-coast."

A Correspondent has favoured us with a Sketch of this Indian wonder. It is placed upon a bastion near one of the gates of Bejapore. Its native name is "Mulk Midhen" (Master of the Plain). Its length is 14 ft. 1 in.; diameter at bore, 2 ft. 4½ in.; diameter at breech, 4 ft. 10 in.; ditto at muzzle, 5 ft. 2 in. It is stated to require an iron ball weighing about 3100 lb. It is believed by some to be partly of gold; but there is a more wonderful tradition as to its history: it was fired once during a siege of the city, and the natives imagine the ball to be flying yet!

PARLIAMENTARY PORTRAITS.

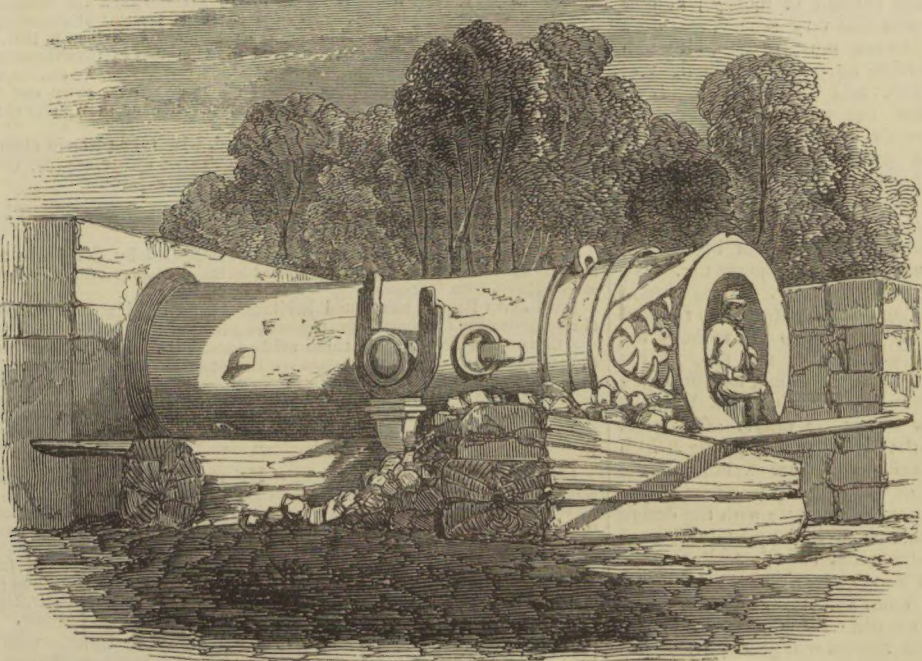
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE FOX MAULE, M.P. FOR PERTH, SECRETARY AT WAR.

THE Right Honourable Fox Maule, Lord-Lieutenant of Forfarshire, and Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow, is a member of the Privy Council, and has a seat in the Cabinet. He is the eldest son of the present Lord Panmure, created Baron in 1831, and now upwards of eighty years of age; is cousin-german to the Earl of Dalhousie, and son-in-law to Lord Abercrombie, whose



THE RIGHT HON. FOX MAULE, M.P. FOR PERTH.

eldest daughter he married in 1831. Mr. Maule was born on the 22d of April, 1801; was educated at the Charter House School, which he entered in 1810, and left in the early part of 1818. In June, 1819, he entered the army as Ensign in the 79th Highlanders, served in Canada upon Lord Dalhousie's Staff from 1822 to 1828, and retired from the army with the rank of Captain in 1831. He took an active part in the election of Lord Ormelle, in 1832, and was chairman of Mr. Graham's Committee when he contested the county of Perth in 1834, on the vacancy occasioned by the succession to the



THE GREAT GUN AT BEEJAPORE.

THE GREAT GUN AT BEEJAPORE.

By the last Indian mail, we learn, among the news from the Bombay Presidency, that "a plan is before the Government for the removal to England of the great brass gun at Bejapore. It is the largest piece of ordnance in the world for its calibre. This gun was cast for the native Princes of Bejapore in 1590, at Ahmednuggur, and thence moved to Bejapore: in 1823, the Bombay Government was extremely desirous of sending it to England, as a present to the King; but, until the roads are im-

Mr. Pennyson D. Lyndcutt was inadvertently shut out of the division on Lord Duncan's motion for the repeal of the window tax, although he had arrived from Paris that afternoon for the express purpose of voting.

MUSIC.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

Mendelssohn's oratorio, "Elijah," two performances of which took place at Exeter Hall on the 5th and 12th inst. (last night), with the exception of the Birmingham Festival, has never been heard with such an approximation to perfection in this country, not so much from the effectiveness of the principal singers as from the choral and orchestral ensemble. The allotment of the music was, however, unexceptionable as regards Miss Dolby, the Misses A. and M. Williams, and Mr. Lockey, who are thoroughly conversant with Mendelssohn's work. Miss Catherine Hayes and Herr Fornes are as yet not altogether familiar with the composer's intentions. The German basso has certainly improved in his interpretation since we first heard him at the Liverpool Musical Festival; but he has yet to combine refinement of style with his great dramatic power, before he can approach Staudigl; and, in point of artistic finish, Fornes is inferior to Phillips. Miss Catherine Hayes seems to have studied the notation of the chief soprano part more than the words; hence it was that the celebrated scene of the Prophet and the Widow was coldly correct and wanting in lofty declamatory feeling. The great air opening the second part, "Hear ye, Israel," was not sufficiently impressive; her upper notes in the two quartets, "Holy, holy," and "Oh, come every one," were unsteady and harsh. As "Elijah" will be one of the standing works of the sacred repertoire, certainly as long as the present generation is in existence, it is of importance that every English singer should be as familiar with the music as with the "Messiah." The execution of the three elaborate instrumental movements was admirable; the feelings of despair and sorrowful supplication in the two opening choruses were finely depicted by the singers, and the solemnity of the chorus "Yet doth the Lord" adequately sustained. The choruses of the Priests of Baal were splendidly done; and the "Hear and answer" was thrilling. In the chorus "The fire descends from Heaven," the pianissimo on the words "Upon your faces fall" was wonderfully impressive; and the "Thanks be to God" was a burst of devotional gratitude that went to everybody's heart. Costa, by a hurrying the time, enables the hearer to appreciate the wondrous instrumental undercurrent in this choral thanksgiving. The beautiful points in the "Be not afraid" were carefully marked by the chorists; and the picturesque chorus, "The watching over Israel," was given with exquisite light and shade, the trebles singing deliciously, as also in the short chorus "He that shall endure." The grand picture, "Behold, God the Lord passed by," was remarkably vivid; "The still small voice" was most poetically rendered. In point of massive grandeur, the chorus "But the Lord from the north" was one of the finest displays of the night, and the finale was a stupendous exhibition of choral force. The entire performance advanced the reputation of this excellent body of amateurs in the highest degree, and is the greatest evidence of their extraordinary improvement under Costa's artistic guidance.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The symphonies at the third concert, last Monday evening, were Spohr's in C minor, No. 3, Op. 78, and Beethoven's in B flat, No. 4; and the overtures, Weber's "Ruler of the Spirits," and Ferdinand Ries' "Don Carlos." Spohr's work abounds with his peculiarities and mannerism: full of profound learning, it is destitute of original inspiration. Right welcome was the glorious B flat of Beethoven: the surpassing loveliness of the adagio, the captivating piquancy of the minuetto, and the colossal proportions of the opening and last movements, were the highest possible treat. The overtures, like the symphonies, were an antithesis: the one was sublime, the other ridiculous. Weber concluded gloriously the first part; Ries' was a walking-out piece of music for the amateurs. The solo performer was Mr. Cooper, a member of the Royal Italian Opera orchestra, who last season made such a successful debut at the Philharmonic concert. He selected Mendelssohn's violin concerto, the only one the composer wrote for that instrument—a fact much to be regretted. Mr. Cooper made a powerful impression on his auditory by his masterly interpretation of the work, particularly in the andante, in which his breadth of tone and impassioned style quite startled those critics who regard the possession of intensity on the part of an English player as an impossibility. Mr. Cooper's mechanism is that of a thorough master, and he appears to combine all the necessary ingredients of a great player. In his style an increase of refinement is the desideratum. He was much applauded at the close of the concerto, both by band and audience. Amongst the latter was the Duke of Cambridge. The vocal portion of the concert comprised trios from Beethoven's "Fidelio" and Mozart's "Nozze di Figaro"; Mendelssohn's quartet, "When the west;" and Rossini's duo, "Quis est homo," from Rossini's "Stabat Mater;" sung by the Misses A. and M. Williams, Messrs. Benson and Boddas. The fourth concert will be on the 22d inst.

WESTERN MADRIGAL SOCIETY.

The 11th anniversary festival was celebrated on Tuesday night, in Freemasons Hall; the respected President of the society, J. Evans, Esq., in the chair. The poetry wedded to music by the ancient Madrigal composers is so full of gallantry and devotion to the fair sex, that it is not surprising the members of the society are anxious to invite living illustrations of the poet's enthusiasm and the musician's impassioned strains at their festival gatherings, and the gallery of the beautiful hall was, therefore, filled with ladies—realizing the words in Wilbye's Madrigal—

Where smiling roses and sweet lilies sit,
Keeping their spring-tide graces all the year.

After the banquet, the usual disposition of the company took place—some sixty visitors, non-vocalists, occupying tables behind the chair, and the singers being classed in the body of the hall, exhibiting an effective of some forty-eight basses, thirty-six tenors, and fourteen altos, which, with the fifteen boys of the Chapel Royal and Westminster Abbey, made, with the conductor, Mr. Turle, the organist of the Cathedral, 114 voices, amongst whom were the Rev. Mr. Helmore, Professor Taylor, Messrs. Lawler, Land, Genge, Fitzwilliam, Brinley Richards, Anderson, Gray, Forbes, Clinton, King, Oliphant, Bishop, Reppingham, Banner, Hall, Walmesley, J. Calkin, Donald King, W. Seguin, Barnby, Howe, Coward, Griesbach, Banting, Rawlins, A. Novello, &c.—a combination of professional and amateur talent which ensured the effective performance of the selection. The scheme comprised R. Farrant's Full Anthem, &c. (A.D. 1580); "Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake," G. Ferretti's Madrigal (1575); "My Lady still abhors me," J. Ward's "Hope of my heart" (1613); T. Weekes's "When Thorals delights" (1600); and "Now is my Cloris" (1598); J. Farmer's "Now each creature" (1598); J. Wilbye's "The Lady Oriana" (1601); and "Sweet Honey-sucking Bees" (1609); T. Morley's "Fire! fire!" (1595); H. Parcell's "In these delightful" (1676); J. Benet's "All creatures now" (1601); Luca Marenzio's "So saith my fair" (1580); and the customary finale, J. Saville's "Waits" (1667). There were numerous ecores in this judiciously selected and well-executed programme. The usual loyal and occasional toasts were drunk, little time being lost in oratory. A just tribute was paid to the indefatigable zeal of the worthy President in upholding the Society, and to the great exertions of Mr. Budd, the honorary secretary, whose absence, from severe indisposition, was much to be regretted.

THE MUSICAL UNION.

The Duke of Cambridge and a numerous assemblage of aristocratic and literary amateurs were present at the second meeting, on Tuesday, to listen to a highly interesting programme, executed by a "quadruple alliance" of German, French, Italian, and English artists. The scheme opened with Mendelssohn's quartet, Op. 44, in E minor, beginning with the "Allegro," and ending with the finale, but for the two original middle movements substituting fragments of the composer's posthumous work, Op. 81, including an andante in E major, and scherzo in A minor. We cannot approve of this kind of arrangement, even although it bears the high sanction of Ernst's name. The two interpolated movements are "gems of art," no doubt, but the principle of interference with a composer's work is bad; and there can be no objection to listen to these posthumous works as the lamented composer has unfortunately left them, without excision of his other compositions. Beethoven's quartet, Op. 10, in E flat, was also given in magnificent style by Ernst, Deloffre, Hill, and Viotti. With Sterdale Bennett's Beethoven's sonata in G, No. 3, for piano and violin, the inimitable Ernst found an admirable coadjutor. The playing of Bennett in some of Mendelssohn's "Songs without Words" was distinguished by poetic feeling as well as perfect mechanism.

The third matinee will be on the 23d instant.

MDME. SCHWAB'S EVENING CONCERT.

The annual concert of the above pianiste took place, on Wednesday night, at the Princess's Concert-room. She performed in Mozart's quartet in E flat with Mr. Thirlwall (violin), Mr. Hill (viola), and Mr. Reed (violinello); with Signor Briccialdi (bassist); and in a duo for two pianofortes, with Mr. T. Praeger, the composer. The vocalists were Mdle. Nau, Mdme. F. Lablache, Misses Poole, Messent, Pyne, Thirlwall, Leslie; Signor Marras, Herr Mengis, Messrs. Burdill, and Whitworth. Miss Messent was encored in Sir H. R. Bishop's air "Tell me, my heart," and Mdme. F. Lablache, in a Scotch ballad.

MR. G. A. OSBORNE'S MATINEE MUSICALE.

This clever composer and pianist gave the first of a series of three matinees, on Thursday, at the Beethoven Rooms. He performed in his own trio in G, with Herr Ernst and Signor Piatti; and the same artists executed Beethoven's trio in D for pianoforte, violin, and violoncello. Mr. Osborne also played some of his own pleasing compositions, and, with Ernst, Mayseider's sonata in E minor. Miss Catherine Hayes was encored in Mr. Osborne's elegant ballad "Oh! sing to me," which she sang very nicely. Mrs. Hampton, the sister of Mr. Osborne, sang expressively one of Lover's songs—she has a speciality in her style of rendering Irish melodies. The room was filled to overflow with a fashionable assemblage.

MUSICAL EVENTS.—Mr. Henry Phillips and Mr. Henry Smith gave musical entertainments on Monday last, the former at St. Martin's Hall, and the latter at Crosby Hall; a concert also took place at the Horns Tavern, given by Mr. W. Wilson, at which Misses Poole, Cubitt, Thornton, Harris, Ransford, and Mrs. Wilson, Messrs. Sims Reeves, Genge, Smith, Ransford, and Ford, were the chief singers.—The fourth concert of the Amateur Musical Society will take place next Monday.—On Tuesday, an evening concert will be given, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on behalf of Mr. Henry Boys, a much respected professor, who has been disabled from following his career by paralysis: the most eminent artists, native and foreign, will give their services.—On Wednesday will be the fourth and last musical evening of Mr. Lucas, Mr. Willy's concert at Exeter Hall, M. Szczepanowski's matinee, and Mr. Salaman's evening concert.—On Friday, Miss Chandler will give an evening concert at the Music Hall.—On the same evening, the London Sacred Harmonic Society, under Mr. Surman's direction, will perform Handel's "Judas Maccabeus," with

the Misses A. and M. Williams, Stuart, Messrs. Sims Reeves, T. Wilkins, and Boddas as chief vocalists.—On Thursday Mr. Templeton gave his second lecture on Music at the Whitlington Club.—A meeting of the committee of management for Mr. Platt's Farewell Concert on Wednesday, the 24th, met at the Hanover-square Rooms on the 10th inst., Sir George Smart in the chair. It was announced that the patriarch Lindley, who is about to retire from the profession, will perform on this occasion, in a trio by Corelli, assisted by Messrs. Lucas and Howell; Mrs. Anderson will play a pianoforte fantasia; and the splendid band, consisting of the entire Royal Italian Opera orchestra and Philharmonic Concert, will, under Costa's magic baton, execute either three overtures, or a symphony and two overtures. The vocalists will be Miss Catherine Hayes, Miss Ellen Lyon, Miss Bassano, Miss Eliza Birch, the Misses A. and M. Williams, Miss Dolby, Miss Birch, and Miss Louisa Pyne, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Benson, and Mr. Lockey, tenors, and Mr. H. Phillips, Mr. Machin, and Signor F. Lablache.—Mr. Wyld's matinee musicales will commence next Monday, at Willis's Rooms.—Mr. G. and J. Case's concert will be at the London Tavern, on the 19th.

IRELAND.

ABOLITION OF THE VICE-ROYALTY.—An aggregate meeting of the citizens of Dublin, convened in pursuance of a requisition to the Lord Mayor, to petition the legislature against the contemplated abolition of the office of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, was held on Monday in the Round-room of the Rotundo, in that city. Admission to the platform and reserved seats was by ticket, the price to the former being half-a-crown, and to the latter, 1s.; but shortly after the commencement of the proceedings the whole of the edifice was crowded almost to excess, the audience including some ladies in the reserved places. The chair was taken by the Lord Mayor. Resolutions condemnatory of the intended abolition of the viceregal court were adopted.

LORD GOUGH.—Great preparations are making at the United Service Club in Dublin, to give a splendid banquet to Lord Gough on his expected arrival in the capital of his native country. Sir Edward Blakeney, the Commander-in-Chief, is to preside on the occasion.

JOSEPH ADY.—This insatiable letter-writer has lately been endeavouring to open a market for his trade at Limerick, and has so far succeeded, that very many of the citizens, not expecting such a correspondence, have already paid the invitation fee of postage by opening his letters.

EXTRAORDINARY INCREASE OF POPULATION.—The town of Belfast has more than doubled its population since 1831, the amount then being, according to the census, 52,837, whereas the population at present is ascertained to be 103,733.

PRESENT TO HER MAJESTY FROM THE EMPEROR OF MOROCCO.—On Tuesday, nine horses, of the pure Arabian breed, presented to her Majesty by the Emperor of Morocco, arrived at the South-Western Railway terminus, Waterloo-bridge. The animals appeared poor diminutive creatures in comparison with English horses. They are of a grisly black and light bay colour, all under three years of age, and none standing more than twelve hands high. They were accompanied by two native attendants. Several of her Majesty's servants from the Royal stables, and two breaks, were at the station, and the horses were conveyed to Buckingham Palace, where they were inspected by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Duke of Norfolk (Master of the Horse), Col. Phipps, &c. The singular appearance of the animals, the mares being all rung and their tails of enormous size (the hair being cut close), together with the uncouth look of their attendants, attracted much attention, and a crowd of persons followed them to the gates of the palace.

MANION MODELLING.—Mr. Thomas D. Dighton, of Pimlico, well known for his talent in modelling the Houses of Parliament, has permitted us to inspect a *chef d'oeuvre* of his, in an exquisite model of a mansion-house, designed for E. L. Bells, Esq., chairman of the Eastern Counties Railway Company. It is in the Elizabethan style of architecture, and of exceeding beauty. The artist has given, with the most minute and faithful accuracy, every point of the magnificent building, with its Italian garden, conservatory, fountains, and statues; and, curiously enough, it strikes the imagination as a noble edifice looked at by an inverted opera-glass, and is as correct in its elaborate details as such a view of such an object would necessarily present.

THE DUCHY OF LANCASTER.—The total income of the Duchy of Lancaster for the year ending Michaelmas, 1849, was £34,960 18s. 10d., including a balance in the hands of the receivers of £4512 12s. 4d. The expenditure during the same period was as follows:—Salaries and allowances to the officers of the duchy and to the law officers of the county palatine, £7436; ditto of receivers and agents, £189; stewards, bailiffs, &c., £428; annuities and retired allowances, £828; donations and charities, £1199; law charges, £1004; surveys and valuations, £456; labourers' wages, expenses of manorial courts, &c., £5030; purchase of stock, £1604; payments made out of the revenue to her Majesty's privy purse, £9560; balance, £2763.

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.—April 11: Adjourned Meeting: London: J. J. Macgregor, Esq., in the chair.—Three auditors, Messrs. Childs Coles, Morgan and Browne, were elected, the remuneration to be £100 per annum each. In the course of the proceedings the chairman stated that the directors expected the injunctions restraining the payment of the dividends until the Ashford and St. Leonard branch was opened, would be rescinded. Should it not be so, however, the line would be opened in August next, so that the suspension of dividends could only continue until that time.

CURIOUS APPLICATION.—Mr. Davenport, the solicitor, applied to the magistrates at Liverpool during the week, on behalf of Mary McCourt, for a summons against the captain of a ship, which arrived in the Mersey on Sunday last. The girl (as she stated) had gone on board the vessel at New Orleans, to see a female friend, named Miss Grace, off, when the captain forced her into the cabin, and would not permit her to go on shore. She was accordingly (as she said) brought to Liverpool, and left on shore without money or friends. The summons was granted.

GREAT FIRE AT COTTENHAM.—FORTY FARMS BURNT.

The village of Cottenham was, on Thursday night week, the scene of one of the largest conflagrations that has ever been known in Cambridgeshire. The flames were distinctly visible for miles around. The fire, which was the work of an incendiary, was first seen about eight o'clock in Cambridge. It was first discovered in the rear of the farm premises occupied by Mr. Thomas Graves, and directly in the direction of the wind, which was at the time blowing a stiff gale from S.W. by W. The inflammable nature of the materials in the yard soon caused the fire to spread with the most fearful rapidity; and in a short space of time the whole of the premises, the fire being assisted in its devouring progress by the wind, were in a complete mass of flame. The whole of the left-hand side as one enters from Cambridge up to where the fire commenced, consists, for the most part, of farm-houses and buildings. Long before Mr. Graves's premises were consumed, the fire communicated with those adjoining. The flames at this time began to assume a most awfully grand appearance. All human exertions were at once seen to be useless, and the owners were obliged passively to look on and behold the destruction of their property. The flames spread from farm to farm, all of them being reduced to ashes.

On the opposite side of the road the flames consumed the Black Horse Inn and all the premises. This house stands at a corner, at the turning towards Cottenham Church. The wind continued to blow sharply, and the flames driving all before them attacked the premises of Mr. Chivers, and though the engines had arrived from Cambridge, they were of no use. The fire then attacked the houses of Mr. Smith and the White Horse. The whole of the premises of the former, with the exception of the house, were consumed, while the destruction of the latter was complete. The premises of Mr. P.ia were also consumed, leaving only the house. There is a turning at this place to the right as one goes, leading down to another part of the village. On the right hand the premises are occupied by Mr. C. Chivers and Mr. Everett, and on the left by Mr. Watson, the whole of whose occupations are destroyed.

Proceeding onwards to the right, the fire attacked the homesteads of Messrs. Watson, Papworth, and Everett, which, with the dissenting chapel, fell victims to the flames. In a straight direction the fire spread to the occupation of Mr. Ivatt, which was completely annihilated. In its progress it consumed a number of cottages and small occupations, and finally was got under at one occupied by —Hopkins. The loss is enormous. The vile act of the incendiary has in this instance caused the most heartrending misery. Numbers of persons are not only thrown out of employ, but are dependent upon charity for food and shelter, whilst the miscreant who has caused the calamity remains undiscovered. The following is a list of the farm-houses and premises destroyed:—Mr. Thomas Graves, F. Goode, house standing; Spackman, Watson, Papworth, James Ivatt, house left; Chivers, Everett, the Black Horse; James Chivers, Smith, house left; the White Horse, Fain, house left, all in the main street. In the back street, Robert Watson, Papworth, Everett, and the dissenting chapel. The following have had their houses destroyed:—Spackman, R. Ivatt, Rayment, Moreland, E. Rowell, Cuttress, A. Norman, Haird, Todd, T. Chivers, J. Chivers, Everett (tailor), Jacob Smith, Watson, W. Papworth, Emmerson, J. Everett, Thurston, Edmund Ivatt, Elson, John Smith, Hawkins, Mary Watson. Total loss nearly £100,000.

Besides these, there are between forty and fifty cottages destroyed. The losses will fall heavy on the Norwich Union and the Farmers' Fire Insurance Offices—to the amount of about £14,000.

The space traversed by the fire was very great. It seemed as if half the village had been laid in ruins; and yet the fire had been very capricious in its course, for here and there was to be seen a house standing almost uninjured, in the very midst of black and smoking ruins.

The labourers worked willingly and well, so long as a chance of doing any good remained; but their efforts, aided as they were before long by the go-nas-men from Cambridge, were so manifestly unavailing, that people at last stood by in helpless and despairing inaction. Farm after farm, cottage after cottage, fell before the flames; and by three o'clock in the morning, when further immediate danger might be said to be over, the awful destruction was completed. Happily, however, no human lives were lost; nor did any horses or cattle fall victims to the flames. A vast quantity of poultry and pigeons, and a good many pigs, were destroyed; but all the horses and neat stock were removed out of harm's way. Of course, numbers of poor families have been rendered homeless, and many of them have lost all their little store of furniture: we need hardly say that these have been cared for by their more fortunate neighbours, as well as circumstances would allow.

SPRING-TIME IN LONDON.

"ALL A-BLOWING! ALL A-GROWING!"

BY THOMAS MILLER.

"All a-blowing! all a-growing!" are the first sounds which the spring flowers are ushered into the streets of London; and although not uttered by the lips of such fabled nymphs as the poets of old clothed in the richest hues of their imagination, and sent forth as attendants on blossom-bearing Spring, the voices still come like gentle greetings from old friends, all the sweeter through having been so long absent. Sometimes we see a pretty face, looking out through the homely bonnet, and behold a light and graceful form, and hear a clear musical voice calling out "Sweet primroses!" Another hurries along from street to street with the little basket balanced on her head, while with one hand she ever keeps throwing back the long silky hair that falls down and veils her deep violet-coloured eyes; and we think how some such figure haunted the poet's fancy when he peopled the vales of Arcady with the "sweet spirits of the flowers."

Now windows which have been closed throughout the long winter are again thrown open, and the pleasant breeze which has come from "far away o'er the sea," again blows freshly into those close and unhealthy-smelling rooms. Over dead walls and high houses has the refreshing air climbed—escaping from courts in which there was no thoroughfare: through the steam of suffocating sewers it struggled; it shook off the malaria that clung to its skirts, as it swept over dark and stagnant ditches: over bone-boiling houses it hurried, and left the old poison behind to float around the places where it was first engendered; and, though somewhat shorn of its sweetness and its strength, it comes like a welcome guest in at the open doors and uplifted casements of the poor. By it the grey hairs of that thin, pale-faced old man are uplifted: it tosses aside the long brown locks of the little grandchild that stands between his knees, fatherless and motherless—for the wind an hour ago blew over the empty house beside the black putrid ditch, where so many died during the past summer, and where that little orphan then lived. Even the imprisoned lark that hangs by the window feels his plumes ruffled by the breeze, and fancying for a moment that he is free sends out his voice through the wire cage, and sings as if he were again shivering his wings in some silvery cloud high above the opening daisies.

The blessed breeze and the sweet sunshine have aroused the poor children who vegetate in courts and alleys; and these dirty images of innocence have descended from the close high attics, and climbed out of the low damp cellars, and now, bare-headed and bare-footed and scantily clad, they are chasing each other like swallows, and appear as happy as if neither rags nor hunger existed. In this great city of palaces, poorhouses, and prisons. A drum-battledore with its gilded shuttlecock they never saw; nor would such things make them happier than those they have manufactured out of the corks they picked up among the sweepings of the gin-shop, and the feathers from the stall of a distant poulterer; while the bottom of a sauceman, or the crown of a hat, even the fire-shovel (if nothing else is to be had), furnish them with battledores. Somewhere those little ones have been and thrust their tiny arms through the railings where a lilac-tree was in leaf, and they have dug up the stones in the court and stuck the green lilac-twigs in the ground, and made themselves a garden, which they are watering out of oyster-shells and broken bits of pot; for the same instinct that leads a bird to build its nest, causes them to imitate the making of gardens. They collect the leaves of the turnip-tops which the greengrocer has thrown into the street, and, placing them on their little bare heads, march up and down the court, crying "All a-blowing! all a-growing!"

You peep through the open doors of little houses, at the fronts of which men and women are bartering old garments for roots or flowers, although in humbler neighbourhoods than the one our Artist has here pictured. And through those open doors you see a little sunless spot between two dead walls, by the side of which a small portion of dark damp mould is portioned off, somewhere about a yard in width by eight feet in length, and those are the two garden-beds into which the "penny roots" will be stuck. Here they grow mustard-and-cress, on which the cats fight, and over which Cinderella shakes her door-mats, while scores of little black flies play at hide and seek amongst the leaves; nor will all the washing in the world cleanse your salad from these little superfluities. Then, just as the penny wall-flower had struck, and the two roots of daisies, which cost per ditto, were beginning to try to open, and the holyhock looked as if it might live, and the lupin had still a few leaves left, and the Canterbury bell had one live shoot on, just as "the garden" was really promising to rear at least one root, the woman that lived in the two-par-back hung a heavy coverlet on the clothes-line (the line itself consisting of six separate pieces), and it broke, and every root broke too, and not one again raised its head. Then Billy was always howling his hoop, and could never turn it without going on the other bed; and the dustman had placed his basket on the two scarlet runners that were coming up; and where the nasturtiums were set earwigs were ever creeping in and out, and long-bodied wire-worms, that looked up at Billy as if they would like to taste of his little bare legs, and from which he always ran in screaming. Then they had told Mrs. So-and-so to save her soap-suds, to pour on the roots of the little bit of grape-vine which only showed a leaf here and there, and she, wishing to oblige her landlady, had put the suds in the sauceman again, blown the fire, and emptied the contents into the hole she made by the grape-vine root, boiling hot!

"All a-blowing! all a-growing!" Saw you that poor woman turn round at the well-known sound? Had you been nearer, you might have heard the low sigh she heaved. See, she has purchased with her last halfpenny a bunch of blue-bells and primroses, and these she will place in water on her window-sill; and, while her face rests upon her hand, she will see miles beyond the little back yard, with its water-but and cinder-heap, which her window overlooks, even as far off as the home of her childhood. The little cottage beside the wide open common, which was yellow with gorse and broom in summer, and purple with heath-bells in autumn, will again rise before her. In fancy she will hear the bees murmur as they went to and fro from her father's garden; will see the beds of flowers which she called her own; the old apple-tree, robed in white and crimson blossoms; and hear the very chirp of the sparrows that built in the thatched roof, under which the houseyuckle climbed. She will again picture the rustic stile—the walk along the green lane, when the hedges were white with May, when his arm was placed gently around her waist, who is now working in chains in some penal settlement. He, who was so good and so kind to her, until he was allured to London, where he met with evil companions, and, first starved, then stupefied with gin, went forth in the still dark night, and returned home a housebreaker. See! her eyes are closed—she has fallen asleep in her broken chair—a tear yet lingers in her eye-lashes, and a faint sad smile rests on her wan lips—for she fancies that she again hears the village-bells ringing, and that she is walking between those rows of graves, beneath the avenue of elms, with her bible and prayer-book in her hand, and about to enter the humble pew in which her father and mother (long since dead) knelt beside her in prayer. She awakes with a sigh; the sunshine falls on the chimney-pot opposite. She hears the drunken dustman, who lives beneath her, again quarrelling with his wife; the cry of "Beer!" in the street, then the smell from the sewer, ascends; and, bringing in her flowers, she closes the window, and sits down to earn one-half-penny per hour at the needlework supplied to her by that heart of nether millstone, the Great Nebuchadnezzar, through whose fiery furnace so many are compelled to pass, and in which such numbers perish, as they yield to his stern decree—because they know no other way by which they can obtain bread—garments made beneath burning sighs and scalding tears, that seem hot enough to blister the backs of those who wear them. God help thee, poor woman! thou canst not see them, although we can; there is an angel's face shining through every tear thou hast shed over those flowers, and looking upon thee with mild and pitying eyes.

See those old men and women, "pottering" about the bit of ground before the almshouses; they also feel the cheering influence of spring. Although each plot or bed would but little more than make a grave, were a tolerable breadth of walk left between them, they find a pleasure in cultivating so small a patch of earth, every inch of which brings something to remembrance as it is turned over; that root was given by old William, who is dead; the other by John, who is dying; from this, last summer, were cut the flowers he placed in a comrade's coffin; that his wife, long dead, brought all the way from the country, when she went to see her daughter at Croydon, and was so poor, that she had to walk back—and that walk caused her death; for, while heated, she sat before the door in the cool, calm April evening—it "chilled" her, and she died. Howest old bedesman! I could kiss off the tear that fell on the blue sleeve of thy old coat, were it not for pride or shame. "Two years ago," sir; "she was but seventy!" and thy heart still softens, and thy tears fall when her image rises before thee, for in thy eyes she never looked aged, but rose green and fresh through the memory of other years, even as when thou first didst woo her, walking between the quiet woods along the canal near Croydon, when the forget-me-not looked into the water at its shadow, and the crimson foxglove made a red streak like sunset in the crystal mirror, and no one then dreamed that a railway would bare its iron back where the glossy water reflected both your images, and the broad-branched oak beneath which ye were then seated.

Spring brings with it Easter, even as it did last week—the first holiday that brightens on the departing gloom of winter. Then, we heard mingled with the cry of "All a-blowing! all a-growing!" the ready notes of penny trumpets, and the beat of tiny drums, and the shrill pipings of yellow wooden whistles; and tired children walked home from Greenwich with little dolls on their arms; and mothers carried their sleeping babies without murmuring; and little feet, that "scarcely stirred the dust," came piddling on, just as their young fathers and mothers had done some three or four and twenty years ago. Here, one on each side clung to her gown, there he carried another pick-a-back, who kept grinding his organ as he rode; while the fourth slept, covered over with the shawl, regardless of the busy crowds that were hurrying to and fro. Surely there was no selfishness in the enjoyment of the day on the part of the parents, shared as it was by those dear dusty children, the eldest not five years old, the youngest not so many months; and two of them carried every inch of the five miles back. For days after will those children talk about what they saw in the park at Greenwich, in the fair, and on the road; and their dreams will be of gilt gingerbread horses, and swings high as the tall trees, and booths, and music, the distant river, old pensioners with wooden legs and spy-glasses, donkeys on Blackheath, swarthy gipsies, drinks of beer, and the heads and tails of shrimps. They will mimic the sights, and try to imitate the sounds, and go sounding and drumming through the house until the trumpet refuses to speak, and the drum is burst, and not a wire is left inside the three-penny organ. Then their grandfathers and grandmothers (if they were not with them) will



"ALL A-BLOWING! ALL A-GROWING!"—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

come and ask an hundred questions as to what they saw, and what they did, and whither they went; and, from the answers they receive, go away convinced that there are no other children in this huge overgrown London, to be compared with their grandchildren. May heaven shower its blessings on the conceit, and they never have cause to think otherwise!

Besides such groups as these, the pavements were almost blocked up with little carts, in which many a kiss and many a scratch were exchanged, and in these children squaled and smiled as they were dragged part of the way to the fair. And the little nursery-maid, who still wore her workhouse dress, was compelled to turn round every few minutes and to threaten what she would do at the impudent but good-natured boys who would help to shove on the little chaise! and cram a portion of their oranges or gingerbread into the children's mouths. Then one fine-looking, dark-eyed lad, after a harmless fight with the little maid, by some kind of freemasonry, was a minute or two after helping her to draw the chaise, and they went on chatting and laughing together, while he divided his fairings with her. On looking at that lad more closely, we remembered that for a month he brought our water-cresses, that for a fortnight he knocked at our door and called "Butcher!" then we lost sight of him for some weeks, and when he made his appearance again he came with our daily newspaper, followed by a dog, which he set on our favourite cat. Times got worse, and he came with

another boy, and they swept the snow from the pavement for a penny, and as much bread and cheese as they could eat. Then he opened and shut a shop, but had the misfortune to break a pane of glass; and, as it was on Tuesday when the accident took place, and he was informed that the price of the pane would be stopped out of his week's wages; and as he calculated what that would amount to, and found that it would swallow up his whole week's earnings, why he went to breakfast, and never returned; and, just before Easter, he had raised a basket, and, either by money or credit, obtained a goodly show of roots and flowers, and, instead of "Water-cresses!" "Butcher!" or "Paper!" we heard his cheerful and well-known voice in the street, crying "All a-blowing! all a-growing!" He is now aspiring to a donkey and cart, and if we err not, to the little nursery-maid in the mob-cap and workhouse dress, and sweet smiling countenance (when pleased), which proclaims her to have come "of gentle kin."

Now, bundles of rhubarb, that run all to water in the pies and puddings, may be seen in the greengrocers' shops; and little new waxy potatoes, that have no taste, are ticketed a shilling a pound; and small gooseberries, that have the flavour of green-tea leaves, given to the old charwoman, and which she has kept stewing on the hob for a full hour, are ditto per half pint; and asparagus, that looks like candle-wicks, is tied up in bundles; while little salads, made of two

radishes, a couple of onions, a few slices of beet-root, mustard, cress, and a half-penny bunch of water-cresses, sit in little baskets marked sixpence, and try to tempt the passers-by to purchase. Now, men, who smell of the aroma of old woods, stand before the doors of public-houses, with young honeysuckles and eglantines, the roots buried in moss; and violets and primroses, fresh and blowing in their own native earth, just as they were dug up on the sunny banks by Sanderstead, or in the tree-shaded lanes around Cobham.

Finally, old hats, boots, shoes, and cast-off garments of every description are routed out at the cry of "All a-blowing! all a-growing!" and exchanged for flowers, the bearers of which barter on the principle of getting all they can and giving as little as possible in return. Even the lady of the house cannot resist the entreaties of her children, who, attracted by the well-known call, and the sight of the basket of flowers outside the window, drag her to the door, and let her have no peace until she has purchased the lovely heath, the beautiful Iris, the pot of American primroses, or the gaudier group of gold and silver-coloured crocuses. The servant-girl must also have her flower-pot in the high attic window, and she looks at it the first thing in the morning and the last at night and feels thankful, in the words of Solomon, that "the winter is past, the rain is over and gone, the flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singing birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land."



SCENE OF THE FIRE AT COTTENHAM.—SKETCHED FROM LAMBS' CORNER.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



WRECK OF THE "ROYAL ADELAIDE" STEAM-SHIP.

THE WRECK OF THE "ROYAL ADELAIDE."

THE above Sketch of the present actual position of all that remains of this ill-fated vessel, taken from personal observation, as well as the detail of the facts and circumstances which led to the catastrophe, will serve to set the public mind right upon the subject, now that so many contradictory and almost incomprehensible statements have been published.

The first intimation the agents in London, of the Company to whom the vessel belonged, had of the wreck, was made on Sunday evening, March 31st, by the pilot Gillman, who arrived at Gravesend on that evening, with a barque he had in charge. He saw signals of distress from the *Royal Adelaide* at 7.30 p.m. the previous evening, about an hour after she had passed him, and after he had come to anchor for the night. She was then ashore on the Tongue Sands, about a mile west of the *Tongue Light Ship*; but the vessel Gillman had in charge was totally unable to render any assistance, for she had no boat that could live a minute in such a sea, with the whole force of the German Ocean, and a S.E. wind blowing a hurricane at the time.

The gale continued with such unabated violence the whole of Sunday and Monday, that it was not until late in the afternoon of the latter day that any official notification of the wreck was made at Margate, and that by a diver who had gone out on Sunday night.

On Wednesday, April 3, Mr. James Cuttler, the Receiver of Admiralty Droits at Ramsgate and Margate, went on board the *Tongue* light-ship, to ascertain what her crew knew of the wreck; and, from the officer in charge of the vessel at that time, he received a report, the substance of which is, that the *Royal Adelaide* passed up the North Foreland and the Light at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday evening, and that in

about an hour after she appeared to be ashore on the Tongue Sands, opposite the Shingles (where the Channel is but three-quarters of a mile wide); that she appeared to have lost her funnel, as her fires appeared coming up through the deck; and that thereupon the light-ship fired one gun and no more; and that they threw up no rockets, for they had none. The next morning, at daylight, they saw the vessel a total wreck, and then fired another gun.

On the two following days the wind blew so strong from the S.W., that it was useless for the divers to attempt any operations on the wreck, the seaswell over her was so heavy.

On Saturday morning the weather cleared up, the wind abated, and out went the divers, four in number, accompanied by a Government cutter, to protect them in their operations from the adventurers who followed in search of stray portions of the cargo, and whose boats numbered no fewer than sixteen craft.

We arrived very soon after the divers, and found it was then low water at the sands; yet at that moment the depth was nine feet, and the only portion of the wreck visible above the surface was about one-half the starboard paddle-wheel. On descending, we found the position of the wreck to be very different from that which has been generally represented. The Tongue Sand lies due east and west, and the wreck is represented as lying parallel with it and the Channel, while in fact she lies in a position the very contrary—that is to say nearly due north and south, or right athwart the Sands, with her bow to Margate. The whole of her stem and starboard quarter are completely gone; and she lies almost broadside on her larboard. The spokes of the two paddles still adhere, as well as a great portion of the engines and machinery; but the whole of the timbers that remain are loose and quivering, which renders the operations of the divers extremely perilous; while the sand has accumulated in enormous mounds in every part of the wreck, greatly impeding the recovery of such portions of the

cargo as were stowed in the fore-part of the vessel. Many of the bodies of the poor people who were steerage passengers are lying about embedded in the sand.

The Company to whom this ill-fated vessel belonged have now in course of preparation a memorial to the Lords of the Admiralty and the Trinity Board, praying for an inquiry into the conduct of the officer in charge of the *Tongue* light-ship, on the night the wreck took place. The memorial is grounded on the following state of facts:—

"Mr. James Cuttler, the Receiver of Admiralty Droits at Ramsgate and Margate, did not receive any communication officially upon the subject of the wreck until about three o'clock on Monday afternoon, April 1st; the vessel having been wrecked on the Saturday previous at half-past seven p.m., within a mile of the above-named light. The communication then received by Mr. Cuttler was made by Mr. Fruin, the diver, who had been twice down in the wreck during Sunday night and Monday; and this communication Mr. Cuttler reduced to the form of a regular deposition, to which Mr. Fruin was sworn. Mr. Cuttler then wrote to Mr. Charlewood, the Superintending Commandant of the Coast Guard Service of that district, requesting to know whether any, and what, signals of distress had been seen by the Coast Guard of the Margate station from the wreck or the light-ship on the night of Saturday. The reply of Mr. Charlewood is to the effect that at the West-gate station only one signal of distress was seen and one gun heard from the *Tongue* light-ship, and that having seen and heard only one, it was presumed that the vessel had got off; that the night was dark and hazy, the wind blowing very hard from S.E. Mr. Charlewood then goes on to say that he had ordered a cutter to attend the wreck and protect the divers in their operations."

On Wednesday, the 3rd inst., Mr. Cuttler went out to the *Tongue* light-ship, for the purpose of ascertaining from the officer in charge of that vessel on the



WRECKS ON THE ROCKS AT TYNEMOUTH.—SKETCHED FROM BELOW THE SPANISH BATTERY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

night of the wreck, what he knew of the circumstances attending it; and the statement of that individual, as taken down in writing by Mr. Cuttler, is in these words:—

"On Saturday evening, the 30th ult., a large steamer, with a black hull, passed the Light towards the Prince's Channel, at about 6h. p.m. At about 7h. p.m., same evening, saw a steamer ashore on the Tongue Sands, and saw a flare from her deck, as if her funnel was gone. Soon after, saw another flare, and then one gun was fired from the light-ship. It was then blowing very hard from S.E., and the sea very heavy. Did not send up any rockets, as the light-ship is not supplied with any. On Sunday morning, at daylight, saw the steamer a total wreck on the sands, and then fired another gun."

This is the statement upon which the memorial is founded, and which the Company consider sufficient to call for an immediate investigation. A subscription has also been set on foot for the relief of the widows and orphans created by the disaster.

The crew of the light-ship consists of a master and mate, who relieve each other, and five men.

The body of a woman was found on the Maplin Sands, in the parish of Foulness Island, Essex, last week. In the pocket of her gown were several letters, two of which were dated respectively the 7th and 10th of March, 1850, from Warley Barracks, commencing "My dear wife," and signed "John Harrington;" also a pair of child's socks and a string of beads. The unfortunate person seemed, from appearance, to have been one of the passengers of the *Royal Adelaide*. A coroner's inquest returned a verdict of "Found dead." Other bodies had been more recently washed up, namely, that of a man with a cork jacket, at Harwich; a woman, at Great Holland; a child at Little Holland; and a child at Frinton; but as there could be no reasonable doubt that they were the bodies of parties drowned at sea, and probably belonging to the *Royal Adelaide*, Mr. Codd, the coroner of the district, declined holding inquests upon the bodies.

THE EQUINOCTIAL GALES.

GREAT LOSS OF PROPERTY AT THE MOUTH OF THE TYNE.

In our Journal of last week we briefly recorded the loss of property at Tynemouth by the recent storm; we are now enabled to present to our readers a view of the sad scene, sketched by one of our own Artists.

We gather from the *North and South Shields Gazette* that, for a fortnight previous to the latter part of last week, the Tyne had presented at high tide, one unbroken sheet of water, with comparatively few vessels taking in or delivering cargoes upon its bosom. Indeed at one time there were not more than a dozen vessels lying between the Stanhope and Tyne Drops and Young's High Docks. The wind blowing continuously in a N.E. direction, a fleet of colliers—between four and five hundred sail, we believe, bound for the Tyne alone—was detained in Yarmouth Roads, and thereabouts, waiting for a change of wind. In consequence of this, the towns of Shields were in a very depressed condition, and many of the seamen's wives and families were suffering considerably from the long delay of their husbands and friends. On Thursday afternoon, however, the wind chopped round, and blew a steady breeze from S.E.; and on Friday some of the best sailing vessels got down, and came into port safe. The *Ariadne*, of North Shields, ran on shore in the evening, however, and went to pieces.

During Friday night the wind increased into a gale, the sea running high on the Bar. As the morning tide began to make, and vessels were fast crowding in, it was plain to see that there would be mischief, and it was feared that some of them would be driven on shore on Tynemouth Rocks; for along with the light vessels that were coming from the south, were a lot of laden colliers which had gone out on Thursday, and which, seeing the gale coming on, were now putting back. The mischief soon commenced; for, between four and five o'clock in the morning, a Hanoverian galliot, the *Luna*, laden with grain, missed her helm, and ran on to the rocks at Tynemouth, under the Spanish Battery. The *Minnet*, a Swede, ran on the Black Middens about the same time. The *Vigilant* schooner followed her, and now lies with her bottom knocked out. At 4 p.m. the *Mary Anne*, of North Shields, a laden collier, likewise struck on the rocks as she came in.

On Saturday afternoon the gale was at its height, and the great mass of the vessels from Yarmouth Roads had got down on the coast, along with others from the Continent. As it approached high tide, they began to crowd into the harbour. The narrow were soon thronged; and, as is the rule of the Custom House, the vessels coming from foreign parts were brought up at the Low Light Point to be searched. In consequence of this, a fearful confusion took place. The vessels came running in, and before long they got entangled with those brought up; and within half an hour such a smashing and crashing, and tearing away of yards and spars, and breaking in of stems and bulwarks, and carrying away of bowsprits, &c., took place as never was witnessed in the harbour of Shields since the first collier left the Tyne. Between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, the scene was awful to contemplate. There was a dense forest of masts from the *Muscul Scarp* to above Peggy's Hole. The vessels were thrown together in perfect confusion; and as others came in they had either to jam into the confused mass, run on to the *Muscul Scarp*, or be placed on the Low Light Shore. Eventually, a channel was cleared, and those coming in got through, and into safety. All Saturday night and Sunday, steamboats were engaged hauling vessels out of the mass at the Narrows, and it was Monday forenoon before order was restored.

Meanwhile, the scene at the Bar was most exciting. The three lifeboats were out in the Narrows. A brig had run into the Black Middens, and was lying on them with her sails all aback. The North Shields boat eventually got alongside, and brought the crew out. They took them to South Shields. At this moment, a little schooner, which was making the bar, grounded on the Spar Hawk, the limit of the Conservancy Jurisdiction, and unshipped her rudder. She was being swept on to the rocks, and there seemed nothing but speedy destruction for her and her crew, when luckily she drove round the point, and, as by a miracle, amid the cheers of the spectators on the Spanish Battery, ran up high and dry on the beach at Prior's Haven. A fine schooner, the *Theodore*, of Rye, was pitched upon the rocks in the Haven, immediately under the Garrison.

We regret to learn that, notwithstanding the vigilance of the river police, there was great plunder, the wreckers being mostly Irish.

On Sunday morning, the *Sally*, of North Shields, came ashore, on Tynemouth rocks, and at four o'clock in the afternoon, in the presence of thousands of spectators, she went to pieces. The scene at the breaking up of this vessel was most imposing. She was lying on the rock, sea after sea leaping over her; in a moment she was seen to part asunder, and within five minutes there were not two planks or ribs of her left together.

So far as we have ascertained, amid all this loss of property, not one life has been sacrificed, thanks to the lifeboats, and the brave fellows who risked their lives in them.

LOSS OF THE BARQUE "CONCORDIA."—The crew of this ship landed, from her Majesty's brig *Alert*, Commander Dunlop. The *Concordia*, registered 411 tons, belonged to Mr. Thomas Peake, of Plymouth, and was commanded by Mr. Barrett, who, with a crew of fourteen hands, left Plymouth about Christmas last, bound to Sierra Leone, for timber. The barque had 250 tons of limestone for ballast, and on the 18th of February, at 11 p.m., when under all plain sail, steering S. by W. half W., with a light wind from the N.W., thick hazy weather, strong westerly current, struck on a sand-bank at low water. Got water and provisions ready in the ship's boats. By daylight the ship bumped up three miles further inland, and they found that they were in the Bay of Yoff, to the south of Senegal, near Cape Verde, and seven miles north of Goree Island. The natives, robust, tall men, continued to increase in numbers in the vicinity of the ship, and in the course of three days numbered, perhaps, 8000 persons on the shores, and from 500 to 1000 in the ship. Captain Barrett, on the 19th, went to Goree, and, on the 20th, returned with two Frenchmen and an interpreter, who erected tents on shore, but the natives were unwed, and eventually stole everything off the decks and out of the hold, all loose wearing-apparel, charts, &c., and tore away the deck-house, bulwarks, stanchions, &c. The French commodore kindly sent a post-captain and a lieutenant to inspect the condition of the barque, which was irretrievable. Her crew, by the help of camels, were, with the remnant of their luggage, conveyed across the isthmus of Cape Verde, by the Pap mountains, to the French station at Goree, and placed, on the 23rd of February, on board *L'Utilité* razée line-of-battle ship, now used as a guard-ship, where, among other prisoners from the French fleet, there was the negro crew of a brigantine, the master of which, an Englishman, had been murdered by them, and his vessel run ashore. The *Concordia*'s crew complain that, for eight days, they had the same poor fare and foul water as were served out to the prisoners, and that at night they lay where they could. Five of them subsequently had the yellow fever, and one died on board the *Alert*. On the eighth day, the 2nd of March, they took passage in a French merchant barque, and in twenty-four hours reached the Gambia, where they were held in charge by the English Consul until the 18th, when they joined the *Alert*, and thus reached Plymouth on the 4th inst.

DESTRUCTION BY LIGHTNING OF THE AMERICAN BRIG "LINCOLN."—The *Phœnix*, pilot boat, of Cowes (Isle of Wight), arrived on Saturday morning last with the captain, crew, and passengers of this vessel, who were taken out of the German ship *Maria Christina*, of Altona, Voss master, off Portland, bound up Channel to Hamburg. The master of the *Lincoln* sailed from Boston for California on the 29th of January last, and pursued his voyage under favourable circumstances until he had reached the latitude of 4° N. and long. 25° W., when, at 10.30 p.m. of March 2, during a heavy shower of rain, and without any menacing appearance of lightning, the vessel was struck with the electric fluid, which shivered the mainmast, and found its way into the hold. On opening the scuttle, volumes of smoke were emitted, and, finding it impossible to extinguish the fire, they endeavoured to stifle it by closing every aperture. In this state they remained for nearly four days, the fire burning in the hold, when they were relieved from their perilous situation by the providential appearance of the *Maria Christina*, and taken on board. Previous to leaving the ill-fated brig the hatches were opened, when the flames burst forth, and in thirty minutes afterwards the mainmast fell over the side. Captain Averill is very anxious to publish to the world the very kind treatment that he and his unfortunate crew and passengers received from Captain Voss, who did everything in his power to comfort them in their distress.

Letters have been received from Caracas, South America, to the 7th ult., by which it seems that Mr. Wilson, the British Minister, was making some progress in the adjustment of the demand against the government of Venezuela, that it was not likely it would be necessary for the admiral to interfere. It also appears that the government had at length released Mr. Ward from confinement. His claim for indemnity remained to be adjusted.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

EAST INDIA HOUSE.—On Wednesday, a ballot was taken at the East India House for the election of six directors, in the room of John Cotton, Esq., John Loch, Esq., Charles Mills, Esq., William Henry Chicheley Plowden, Esq., M.P., Henry Shank, Esq., and Henry St. George Tucker, Esq., who go out by rotation. At six o'clock the glasses were closed and delivered to the scrutineers, who reported that the election had fallen on Lieut.-General Sir James Low Lushington, G.C.B., George Lyall, Esq., Elliot Macnaghten, Esq., John Petty Muspratt, Esq., Martin Tucker Smith, Esq., M.P., and William Wigram, Esq. A Court of Directors was also held at the East India House, when the following resolution was unanimously proposed:—

That this Court have received with deep concern the intimation of the decease of their chairman, Major-General Sir Archibald Galloway, G.C.B. The although deprived by that lamented event of the gratification which they would have had in expressing to Sir Archibald Galloway their acknowledgments for the unwearied zeal and anxious desire to promote the interests of the company which have characterised his services in the important office which he filled; yet they feel it to be their duty to record that he was justly entitled to their thanks for his great application and attention to the affairs of the company during the past year. That a copy of this resolution be communicated to the family of the late Sir Archibald Galloway, accompanied by an expression of the Court's sympathy and condolence upon their afflictive loss.

The thanks of the Court were at the same time unanimously voted to John Shepherd, Esq., Deputy Chairman, for his great application and attention to the affairs of the company during the past year. Major-General Sir Walter Raleigh Gilbert, G.C.B., has been appointed a provisional member of the Council of India.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—On Tuesday a special general meeting of graduates of the University of London and proprietors of University College was held at the College, to consider the supplemental charter recently granted to the University of London. The Right Hon. E. Strutt was called to the chair; and having introduced the business of the meeting, Mr. Key and Mr. Wood addressed it. The latter gentleman moved the first resolution, which was met by an amendment proposed by Mr. Sharp:—"That whereas the charter of the London University empowers it to grant degrees after examination of the candidates, and does not empower it to grant degrees without examination of the candidates; and whereas the Senate by the new by-law propose to omit a part of the Bachelor of Arts examination in the case of gentlemen with certificates from the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin; therefore this meeting of proprietors of the University thinks it right that all candidates should undergo the same Bachelor of Arts examination, and disapproves of the proposed by-law." This having been seconded, Mr. Wood withdrew his original resolution, and the amendment having been put as a substantive motion, was agreed to *nem. con.* Mr. Wood then moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting regrets the acceptance by the Senate of the University of London of the supplemental charter, enabling them to grant certificates in isolated branches of knowledge, apart from any proof of the candidate having gone through a regular and liberal course of education." Professor Key seconded the motion, which was also agreed to. Mr. Wood then proposed the third resolution, which requested that the above resolutions should be sent to the Home Secretary and the Senate, with a request to Sir G. Grey to decline to sanction the charter by his signature. Mr. Warburton objected to the latter part of the motion, which was after a short discussion withdrawn, leaving only a few lines of the commencement. The meeting separated, after thanking the chairman.

DINNER TO ALDERMAN SIR JOHN KEY.—A grand banquet was given on Monday evening at the London Tavern, by the inhabitants of Lambourn Ward, to Sir John Key, Bart., on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of his election to fill the office of alderman of the ward. The chair was filled by Mr. G. Moffatt, M.P., and covers were laid for 120.

ROYAL MAIL STEAM-PACKET COMPANY.—The annual meeting of this company took place on Thursday, at the London Tavern; Andrew Colville, Esq., in the chair. The report stated, that, although the receipts of the last year showed a considerable falling off in passage money, yet, owing to the increase upon freight, the total exceeded that of 1848 by £7843 13s. 3d. The company were prepared to begin an improved line of communication with South America and the West Indies, and to establish that with Brazil, in a few months after the details of the new service had been agreed upon with her Majesty's Government. The retiring directors were then re-elected, and a dividend at the rate of £2 per share (free of income-tax) for the last six months declared. After a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors, the meeting separated.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.—The general meeting of the members of this society was held on Tuesday at the offices, Lincoln's Inn-fields. The Lord Bishop of St. Asaph presided. The meeting was unusually numerous. Letters were read by the secretary (the Reverend T. B. Murray) from the Bishops of Cumbria, Cape Town, Prince Rupert's Land, Melbourne, and Fredericton. It appeared by the letter from the Bishop of Cape Town, that he had been invited by the Governor, on the recommendation of the Chief Commissary of British Kaffrland (Colonel Mackinnon), to found a mission among the Kaffirs, which his Lordship had undertaken to do. He stated that he must look to the mother Church to aid him in his object; and added, "We want both men and means, and I doubt not that God will provide them." The Bishop enclosed a copy of the *South African Almanack* for 1850, printed in Cape Town.—The Bishop of Prince Rupert's Land stated that considerable local efforts were making at the Red River for the building of new churches; the exertions of the people had been most praiseworthy.—St. Andrew's Church, which his Lordship was about to consecrate, being entirely raised by subscriptions on the spot. Supplies of books were granted on his application.—The society voted the sum of £75 towards building a church in Mantburg, the capital of Natal, and £50 towards building a new church in Swellendam.—Aid was also voted for churches in the diocese of Fredericton.—The sum of £700 was placed at the disposal of the Lord Bishop of Melbourne, towards building five new churches, and enlarging one existing church, in his diocese.—An important communication was read from Archdeacon Macartney, from Geelong, in Australia Felix (Port Phillip), describing the satisfactory condition of a large number of emigrants, who had arrived there by these settlers, as far as could be judged on their arrival on the Australian shores, the Archdeacon mainly attributed to the valuable exertions of Mr. Blackwood, who had been recommended by the society as an emigrant teacher in that ship. A grant was made towards a new church and school-houses in Prince Edward's Island.—The Rev. R. St. John Sherreff having brought forward a motion of which he had given notice, with a view of restricting the terms of a grant of £100, placed by the board at the disposal of Bishop Gobat, for educational purposes in Palestine, the object of such motion being to prevent misunderstanding with the authorities of the Greek Church, the Secretary read a communication from the standing committee, by which it appeared, that, in reply to a letter from the Bishop, the committee had directed a communication to be made to his Lordship, not restricting the grant that had been made, but recommending the avoidance of anything likely to lead to dissension on the subject; upon which Mr. Sherreff, with the gentleman who seconded it, withdrew the motion. The Secretary also stated that a communication had been received from Bishop Gobat by the Prayer-Book and Homily Society, stating that his observation formerly made to the board respecting the imperfections of the Arabic Prayer-book issued by that society, was meant not to refer to the translation itself, but merely to the quantity of the matter contained in the book. Captain Ommamney, R.N., of her Majesty's ship *Assistance*, who was going out in search of Sir John Franklin, applied on behalf of the men who will accompany him for libraries for the vessels, and the society granted works of a religious as well as a general and instructive kind, to the value of £50. The Right Hon. Sidney Herbert acknowledged a grant of books for the use of the Emigrant Home in Hatton-garden. Considerable grants of publications, &c. were voted for distressed districts in England and Wales. These included four new churches and licensed school-rooms. A large list of donations was announced, and many new members having been admitted, a vote of thanks was passed to the right rev. prelate for his conduct in the chair, and the meeting broke up.

SUNDAY LABOUR.—A public meeting was held on Monday evening, in Exeter Hall, for the purpose of taking some steps towards the total cessation of Sabbath Post-office labour throughout the country. Mr. Peter Lanrie, the returning officer for the borough of Marylebone, in the chair. A few words were addressed to the meeting by the chairman relative to the subject in hand, which he described as no political or sectarian question, but essentially and emphatically a poor man's question, for it affected the welfare of from 12,000 to 15,000 persons, to whom the Sabbath dawned as no day of rest. He combated the arguments which had been brought forward in support of Post-office Sabbath labour, which he classified under three heads.—Inconvenience, necessity, and mercy. Yet the plea of inconvenience could scarcely be urged in favour of the provinces, when it was seen that London had not only done without a Sunday delivery, but would not have it restored. The experience of London showed, also, that it was no work of necessity; and he could not but consider that, if the plea of mercy should be urged at all, it should be in favour of those thousands of poor postmen who had to labour and toil on the Sabbath day. Most of those present would remember the universality with which the nation had taken up the question of the penny postage, yet there had been more petitions forwarded to Government on this subject, and more numerous signed, than there were on the penny postage question itself. The first resolution was proposed by Mr. John Dean Paul, seconded by the Rev. R. Dibdin, of West-street Episcopal Church, and carried unanimously. The resolution was to the effect, that the meeting desired to express its entire concurrence in the language of the recent declaration of the merchants, bankers, and others of the city of London, that "the effectual preservation of a seventh day of rest from ordinary labour is a principle of vital importance to the physical and social well-being of the poorer classes of society; while the due observance of the Lord's day is a duty of solemn obligation upon all classes of the community." The second resolution was proposed by Mr. William Carlyle, Bow-lane, Chancery, who said he appeared before the meeting to represent the class of tradesmen who took a deep interest in the matter. The resolution expressed satisfaction with the assurances recently given by her Majesty's ministers, that they foresaw no difficulty in abolishing Post-office labour on the Sabbath, provided that such was the wish of the people. The Rev. G. Greig, of St. Mark's, Kennington, seconded the resolution, which was supported by the Rev. James K. Jennings, and unanimously carried. Mr. Chapman, Leadenhall-street, though a layman, took the deepest interest in this question, which he considered a purely layman's question, and most deserving of lay support. He begged to move that the meeting should express its testimony to the general desire among all classes for the entire cessation of Post-office labour on the Sabbath. This was seconded by the Rev. George Rose, Jamaica Chapel, Bermondsey (a dissenting clergyman), and, like the other resolutions, unanimously carried. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings of the evening.

BLENHEIM-STREET FREE DISPENSARY.—A very brilliant ball, in aid of the funds of this institution, took place on Wednesday night at Willis's Rooms, which were decorated especially for the occasion with a number of flags and emblematic devices, contributed by the authorities of the Ordnance Office. About 350 ladies and gentlemen graced the *reunion* with their presence. Dancing commenced at ten o'clock, and was kept up with great spirit, to the music of Tinney's quadrille band, until some time after midnight, when an excellent supper was served in the lower ball-room. The festivities were subsequently renewed, and it was four o'clock before the party broke up. The Blenheim-street Dispensary is supported by voluntary contributions; and, during the past year, 6078 patients have been admitted on the books of the institution, while no less than 20,000 persons have been prescribed for.

ROYAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.—A general meeting of this institution took place at the London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill, on Thursday last, Mr. Alderman Gibbs in the chair. It appeared from the report, that the number of patients relieved during the past year had amounted to 676, besides a considerable number of out-door patients, who had been visited. Their receipts had amounted to £2401, and their expenses to £2137. The cholera during the past year had caused the present depressed state of their affairs. The retiring directors and auditors were then re-elected, and a vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business of the day.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—On Tuesday, the anniversary festival of this institution took place at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate street, John Gurney Hoare, Esq. (in the absence of Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart), in the chair. In proposing the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Metropolitan Free Hospital," the chairman observed that he regretted that the noble Lord who had been expected to preside on the occasion had been prevented from being present by public duties of an urgent and important nature. He then went on to state, that, although the institution had only been in existence fourteen years, it had been the means of relieving 120,000 persons; and he hoped that so valuable an establishment would continue to receive the support of all who were charitably disposed. It appeared from the report read by the secretary that the committee had thought it necessary to erect a building in Devonshire-square, Bishopsgate-street, for the purposes of the charity. The benefit which the poor derived from the regulations of the hospital was made manifest by the numbers that flocked to it for relief. Since its establishment in the year 1836, upwards of 120,000 persons had been admitted as patients, and the annual average of this number was greatly on the increase. It was this fact, in conjunction with other circumstances, which had induced the committee to extend their operations, and they trusted that they had acted wisely in selecting for this purpose a locality contiguous to the poor and densely-populated districts of the metropolis. These districts had hitherto been somewhat inadequately supplied with the means of affording gratuitous medical relief. The annual expenditure, it appeared, fluctuated between £600 and £700 a year, to meet which, the present annual subscriptions were insufficient, and the committee called upon all those who took an interest in the charity to exert themselves towards increasing its funds. About 100 gentlemen sat down to dinner, and in the course of the evening subscriptions were announced amounting to upwards of £900.

HOMŒOPATHY.—On Wednesday, a public dinner, in aid of the funds to be provided for the erection of a homœopathic institution, called the Hahnemann Hospital, took place at the London Tavern, Lord Robert Grosvenor in the chair. After the usual loyal toasts, the chairman proposed "The memory of the illustrious Hahnemann." This sentiment having been drunk in solemn silence, the chairman next proposed "Success to the proposed Hahnemann Hospital and the medical school, and the health of the homœopathic medical profession." Lord Robert Grosvenor hoped that every exertion would be made towards the establishment of the hospital now contemplated—a hospital which, in his opinion, was absolutely necessary in order to show the full value of the homœopathic system of medical treatment. Subscriptions were announced amounting to about £1500. A second homœopathic dinner took place also on Wednesday, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, at which the Earl of Essex presided, and was supported by Lord Francis Gordon, Lord Maldon, and Lords Alfred and George Paget, &c. The dinner took place for the purpose of celebrating the opening of a Homœopathic Hospital, at No. 32, Golden-square. About 130 gentlemen were present, and it was announced that the Duchess of Cambridge had signified her desire to become the patroness of the institution, and had forwarded a subscription of ten guineas in aid of its funds. The total amount of donations and subscriptions amounted to £1160.

FISTULA INFIRMARY, CHARTERHOUSE-SQUARE.—A meeting of the governors of the above institution took place on Wednesday, at the London Tavern—Lieutenant-General Sir James Low Lushington, G.C.B., in the chair. The chairman said, they had been called together for the purpose of considering the resolutions passed at the special meeting of the 11th of September last, relating to the grant of a piece of land by Mr. B. B. Cabell, M.P., on which to build a hospital for the charity. The secretary then read the report of the committee, which stated that during the past year the public had been indebted to Mr. B. B. Cabell, M.P., for the offer of a valuable piece of ground, ample in its extent, chargeable only with the yearly payment of 5s. in perpetuity. The committee felt constrained, from the various grave requirements which it had seemed prudent to the donor of the boon to exact, not to hesitate in expressing their settled conviction that these conditions could not be accepted without, not merely the peril, but the imminent probability of their not being eventually complied with. The chairman thought the meeting would hardly deem it advisable to apply to Mr. Cabell's solicitor for any modification, the gift could not be a free one under the present conditions. If Mr. Cabell were to die before the completion of the business, his executors might claim the ground, and the institution might lose all they should have expended. He felt satisfied that the report would convince them that they ought to decline Mr. Cabell's offer on the terms laid down by the solicitor. The motion for the adoption of the report of the committee and the medical report was then carried unanimously. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting separated.

WORKMEN'S SCHOOLS OF DESIGN.—The public opening of the North London School of Drawing and Modelling took place on Tuesday evening, at the St. Pancras National School-room, Euston-square, where 500 or 600 persons assembled—Mr. S. C. Hall presiding. The chairman, in opening the meeting, said that the schools of design at Somerset House and Spitalfields were too far removed from a large number of those engaged in the casting and chasing of metals, masonry, carving, plastering, &c., to prove of the benefit intended; and, moreover, these schools he understood to be so crowded that no one could be admitted for two or three months after application had been made. It was therefore intended to institute local artisan schools, the first of which he had the honour that evening of opening. The fees were exceedingly low, yet they had secured the services of Mr. Cave Thomas as one of the teachers, and, by the aid of subscriptions, they had been enabled to pay in advance the first half-year's rent of a room capable of accommodating about 200 persons. Lord Viscount Compton moved the first resolution, which was seconded by Professor Donaldson, and unanimously carried. It was to the effect that instructive occupation promoted happiness and comfort, influenced the manufactures and commerce of the empire, and essentially contributed to the public good. The second resolution, moved by Mr. Latham, and seconded by Mr. Fenton, considered the workmen of this country to be as capable of achieving superiority in the execution of ornamental design as in works of mechanical skill; and the third resolution attributed the alleged inferiority of English workmen in works of design and ornament to the absence of means of education in the principles of art. The fourth and fifth resolutions approved of the establishment of artisan schools of design in the metropolis, and especially of the North London School of Drawing and Modelling. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings of the evening.

WATERLOO-ROAD RAGGED AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.—The first annual meeting in support of these schools was held at Hawkstone-hall, Waterloo-road, on Monday; Mr. D. Wire in the chair. The chairman having addressed the meeting in advocacy of the system adopted by the promoters and supporters of the ragged schools, for reforming the juvenile population of the metropolis, called upon the secretary to read the annual report. It appeared that the schools had been opened about eighteen months ago, and since that period between three and four hundred children of both sexes had entered, and many of them turned out most useful and creditable members of society. The receipts of the past year amounted to £102 16s. 11½d., and the expenditure to £104 2s. 3½d., leaving a debt to the treasurer of £1. Mr. Josiah Conder and several other gentlemen addressed the meeting. At the close of the evening a liberal subscription was made; and a vote of thanks having been passed to the chairman, the assembly separated.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL SCHOOLS.—On Tuesday the official report of her Majesty's Inspector of Schools, respecting the Greenwich Hospital Schools, was printed by order of the House of Commons. There are 800 boys in the schools, and, according to a new dietary table, the weekly cost of the whole 800 boys was £121 3s. 8½d., or a little more than 5d. per boy daily. A saving of some hundreds annually has been effected by leaving off beer. The Inspector adds: "The saving of beer has moreover an important bearing on the morals of the institution; although the allowance to each boy was not enough to hurt him, yet several allowances clubbed together afforded the means of intoxication, and any cases of intemperance which have occurred in the institution have been supposed to have arisen in this way." The report extends to 19 folio pages.

LEICESTER-SQUARE SOUP KITCHEN.—The monthly report for March, which has just been issued, states that want of employment and consequent privation is still lamentably felt, not only by servants, but by mechanics, artisans, and labourers. There have been relieved with good soup and bread, in the Kitchen:—Men, 2227; women, 782. Homes—Men, women, and children, 22,877. Total, 25,886. The establishment for the Reformation of Juvenile Criminals, St. Ann's-street, Westminster (from which six emigrants were recently sent to New York), has been assisted by a supply of 192 gallons of soup and 48 quarts of beer during the month. In the asylum, 194 women and 442 men, making a total of 636 persons, have had the comfort and protection of a home, and the supply of a morning and evening meal. Amongst the persons relieved are many female servants, footmen, and butlers, who, having been long out of employ, are not able, from want of clothes, to apply for situations, but are now, from aid granted by this institution, endeavouring by "jobbing" to obtain suitable apparel, whereby they may reinstate themselves in their former positions. The names of upwards of 200 individuals of all classes of domestic servants, artisans, and labourers have been registered, and their characters carefully investigated—of whom 13 men and 66 women have been sent after respectable situations. Applications are daily being made at the office, personally and by letter, for servants, &c., which are immediately attended to by sending suitable persons on the registry to wait upon the parties. Several of the metropolitan clergy have followed the example of this institution and established free registries at the vestry-rooms of their respective churches. From the facilities afforded to employers and unemployed by this method, local advantages would be derived in parishes by the general adoption of free registries in every vestry and work-house in the metropolis.

THE EXHIBITION OF ANCIENT AND MEDIÆVAL ART.



NO. 681.—CRYSTAL TAZZA.

NO. 635.—GOBLET AND COVER.

NO. 626.—GLASS CUP (LOWER EMPIRE).

NO. 636.—TALL GOBLET, ROPE STEM.

NO. 657.—GOBLET WITH LACE WORK.

ROMAN AND VENETIAN GLASS.

(Continued from page 232.)

IN resuming our notice of this Exhibition, we cannot avoid remarking that the great success attending the present collection is conclusive evidence of the interest taken in the subject of Ancient Art; it is also clear that the public will not remain satisfied with an Exhibition which, being exclusive in its character, limits the display to such objects as can only be strictly considered works of Art, thereby causing the rejection of many relics of the highest historical value. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the year 1851 (destined to disseminate so much utilitarian knowledge throughout the world) will not be suffered to pass away without an attempt on the part of the Archaeological Institute to illustrate the past. With the single exception of the British Museum, there is literally no place in this great metropolis to which the thousands of enquiring foreigners who will visit these shores can resort for the purpose of acquiring any information relative to those treasures of antiquity which this country is well known to possess; and there can be but little question that an Exhibition of Antiquities on a large scale would form an agreeable contrast and relaxation to minds fatigued with the contemplation of improved spinning jennies, or the latest inventions of Sheffield, Paris, Calcutta, or St. Petersburg. Such a scheme, if carried into effect, would tend materially to assist the formation of the department for British antiquities in our national museum, which has been for some time in progress. It is becoming every day more desirable that records should be preserved of "merrie England in the olden time." A few years hence, and perhaps all traces of our former condition as a nation may be lost sight of or swept away in the resistless torrent of "improvement." Nor is it by any means improbable that some useful hints may be derived by the modern artist from having the opportunity afforded him of studying the productions of bygone ages. Many of these will stand the test of comparison with those of the present day: for instance, in the article of glass, some of the forms of which cannot now be imitated.

We have elsewhere remarked on the popular fallacy regarding the early manufacture of this material; nor is this surprising, considering the great diversity of opinion upon the same subject entertained even by the best-informed. The story of the Phœnician navigators having accidentally made the discovery from kindling a fire on the sand of the sea-shore, is, of course, a mere traditional legend; but it is not improbable that, in their intercourse with the natives of Britain, they may have introduced the knowledge of its manufacture, which was, in fact, successfully carried on at Sidon, whence even Imperial Rome itself was supplied. The East, indeed, seems always to have been the cradle of this science; and, in later times, Byzantium acquired great celebrity for the various methods practised there of engraving, stamping,

and cutting glass. Of this, a more beautiful specimen could scarcely be desired than is presented by the tazza belonging to Baron Lionel de Rothschild, which is richly ornamented with a Bacchanalian subject, executed in bas-relief. This cup, as a work of art, must doubtless be highly prized; but, as an almost unique example of the productions in glass of that period, it is of priceless value. The dark green colour of which it is composed assumes a bright ruby or amethyst hue when held against the light, and it is represented in our Engraving as forming the centre of a very interesting group of objects formed of the same material, but of much later date.

After the taking of Constantinople, in 1204, it is probable that for a long period the method of ornamenting glass and many other arts which had formerly flourished there, and for which it had become famous, languished under barbaric influences, and became for a time almost extinct; but the Venetians, who soon after became the principal merchants for the supply of the civilized world, did not fail to avail themselves of so profitable an article of commerce, and, accordingly, we find the glass wares of Venice, and its adjacent city, Murano, soon became in great demand. At the latter end of the fifteenth and beginning of the sixteenth centuries, therefore, these towns had attained the height of excellence in this manufacture; and it is to this period that the beautiful crystal tazza, of which we give an Engraving, the property of Sir Charles Price, Bart., must be assigned, as also the other specimens we have engraved, the property of the Duke of Buccleuch and Mr. Slade.

Our next Engraving represents a figure of the Madonna and child, exquisitely carved in box-wood. It is attributed to Martin Schöngauer, and must be considered a fine specimen of the German school, which is remarkable for its strict attention to the folds of the drapery, and the minutest details indicative of character or costume. This carving is the property of Mr. Magniac.

We have also selected the very curious steel casket, belonging to Mr. Hailstone, as a subject for the engraver. This ingenious specimen of the work of the sixteenth century, which possesses no less than thirty-six bolts, is in all probability the product of the metal manufactories for which Augsburg and Nuremberg were celebrated. It is difficult to define the exact use to which these caskets were applied, but it is not unlikely that they were made to contain the *trousseaux* of brides, in accordance with the custom prevalent in old times, and hence they have been frequently called marriage coffers. In addition to this specimen Mr. Hailstone has contributed largely to this Exhibition, and was, we believe, one of the originators of it.

Amongst the numerous objects which we perceive have considerably swelled the catalogue, is a most valuable square silver dish of Roman workmanship found near Newcastle, the property of the Duke of Northumberland. On it are represented raised figures of Apollo, Diana, Juno, and Minerva. It is of considerable weight, and, as no other similar example is known to exist in England, its value must be great. We notice also some ancient British armlets of pure gold, twisted, which were dug up near Egerton, in Cheshire, and are the property of Sir Philip de M. Grey Egerton, Bart. Then there is a head of Henry

the Seventh, executed in stone by Torresiano, who also constructed his tomb in Westminster Abbey; and the cup given by William Camden to the Paper Stainers' Company, with several other less important additions.

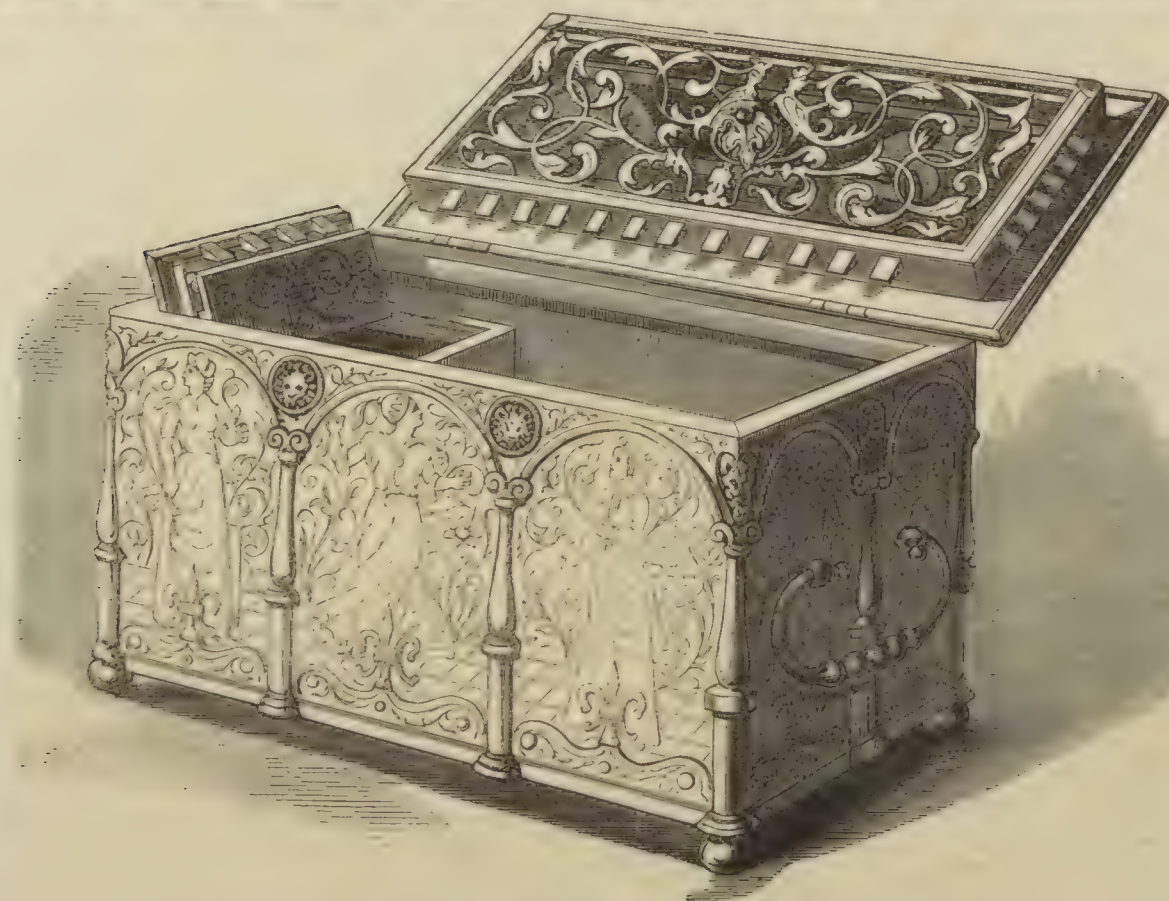
We have previously alluded but slightly to the rather large number of enamelled works which this collection contains; not because this section of the Exhibition does not present many attractions, but because these specimens deriving their value from colour rather than form, any engravings of them should be illuminated to do them justice. We cannot refrain, however, from mentioning the fine Hunting Horn said to have belonged to Francis the First, on which the whole history of Saint Hubert is depicted with all the accuracy of a finished painting. It formerly formed part of the Strawberry-Hill collection, but is now the property of Mr. Magniac. These enamels



NO. 201.—CARVED BOXWOOD FIGURE OF THE VIRGIN AND THE INFANT JESUS.

present a consecutive series of specimens of the art, from the earliest periods to the time when those of Limoges, in the sixteenth century, attained the height of perfection, and when artists of high renown did not disdain to furnish designs for the enameller; they are, consequently, particularly valuable as illustrative of the rise, progress, and decline of this branch of ancient art. In the earlier examples of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, we particularly noticed a very primitively formed Pyx, belonging to Mr. Rodhe Hawkins; and the Croziers, the property of Mr. Hailstone. Amongst these of later date our attention was attracted by the two Tazze exhibited by Mr. C. Tucker, on one of which the subject is painted *en grisaille* from a design by Giulio Romano.

Under the head of "Textile Fabrics," have been classed a variety of objects of considerable interest, amongst which are the embroidered Palls of the Fishmongers', Saddlers', and Ironmongers' Companies. There is a richly ornamented Cope of the thirteenth century, the property of the Earl of Shrewsbury, of which the morse and orfraies is covered with coats of arms of the Ferrers, Derbys, Geneville, Champenoun, Newburgh, Mortimer, Percy, Despencer, and other noble families of that period. There are also some specimens of needlework exhibited by Lady Katherine Boyleau, the Earl of Enniskillen, and Mr. A. Lawson; and truly, if these objects were to be the means of re-introducing the taste for this or any other kind of female handicraft, by which the thousands of our distressed needlewomen could obtain a decent livelihood, their proprietors will have rendered both them and the State no small service.



NO. 165.—ENGRAVED STEEL CASSET, 16TH CENTURY.



BRITISH INSTITUTION EXHIBITION.—"THE COVENANT OF JUDAS."—PAINTED BY J. FRANKLIN.

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

THIS effective picture, its painter, Mr. Franklin, has designated in the catalogue "The Covenant of Judas." The event is told in these words:—

14 Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests,
15 And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.
16 And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.—*St. Matthew, chap. xxvi.*

The subject, we need scarcely observe, is of the highest class that has ever exercised the art of painting, in which the old masters maintain unapproachable excellence. Mr. Franklin's picture does not lack vigorous composition; the figures remind one of those in Haydon's large performances.

"The Covenant of Judas" hangs in the North Room of the Institution: its dimensions are 5 feet 2 inches in height, and 6 feet 6 inches in width.

taking his text from the Second Book of Chronicles, c. vi., v. 8. The rev. gentleman, in the course of a very eloquent and impressive discourse, alluded to the magnificent temple erected by Solomon in token of his homage, and as an acceptable offering to the Lord; and they were now, after an interval of 3000 years, imitating his glorious example; pointing out, at the same time, the marked and important distinctions that existed between a Jewish temple and a Christian

church—between the sacrifice of goats and oxen, which were offered to propitiate God's mercy and goodness in this life, and the commemoration of the death and passion of our Saviour, which had opened up to the Christian the life everlasting in the next world, which enabled him to look across the Valley of the Shadow of Death to a world of immortality, which added earnestness to his supplication, and shed a ray of hope on his death-bed. However humble and unadorned the

CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN
HAMMERSMITH.

ON Thursday last, this Church was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of London, in the presence of a large and highly-respectable congregation, and a number of the metropolitan clergy, who had been invited to attend. The Church, which has been erected in little more than six months, by the Messrs. Bird, of Hammersmith, from designs by Mr. A. Salvin, of Argyle-street, is a light and elegant structure, situated on the south side of the road at Shepherd's-bush; and its lofty and elegantly-proportioned tower and spire, rising to the height of nearly 150 feet, forms a conspicuous object from every point of approach. The visitors and residents of the district, who had been invited to witness the solemn ceremony of the consecration, began to arrive shortly after ten o'clock, and in the course of an hour the Church was filled in every part; the appearance of the interior, with its richly-stained glass windows, and the display of plate upon the communion-table, with the large number of clergymen in their official robes, forming a very interesting and striking scene.

The Lord Bishop of London arrived precisely at half-past eleven o'clock, and was received at the western entrance by the clergy, who were ranged in two lines from the entrance-gate to the Church door. The procession was then formed in the following order:—The beadle, members of the committee, with the architect and builder on either side; the vergers; the members of the choir, in their white surplices; the clergy of the choir, the parochial clergy, the churchwardens, the apparitors, his Grace the Bishop of London, the Chancellor, the Archdeacon, the Chaplain, the Registrar, the Archdeacons, and Rural Dean; the procession being closed by the clergy, two and two. On arriving at the communion-table, the Bishop was attended to the vestry by the Archdeacon of Middlesex, the Chaplain, and the Vicar of the parish, the Rev. Mr. Attwood; and, having assumed his robes, was again conducted to the communion-table, where the Rev. Mr. Attwood presented the petition praying his Lordship to consecrate the edifice. The petition having been read by the Registrar, the Bishop and Clergy proceeded from the east to the west end of the Church, returning up the nave, reciting alternately the 24th Psalm, commencing "The earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is." The Bishop having taken his seat on the north side of the communion-table, the deed of conveyance was presented to him by the Minister, and his Lordship then rose, and addressed the congregation as follows:—

Dearly beloved in the Lord: forasmuch as devout and holy men, as well under the Law as under the Gospel, moved either by the secret inspiration of the Holy Spirit, or by the express command of God, or by their own reason, and sense of order and decency, have erected houses for the public worship of God, and separated them from all profane and common uses; which godly practice hath a manifest tendency to advance the honour of God's holy name, and to enliven the devotion of those who are engaged in his service: let us humbly hope that our Heavenly Father will favourably approve our present purpose, of setting apart this place in solemn manner, for the performance of the several offices of religious worship; and let us faithfully and devoutly pray for his blessing on this our undertaking.

After a solemn prayer from the Bishop, in which the blessing of God was invoked upon the Church and the various ceremonies to be performed therein, the Chancellor read the sentence of consecration, which was then signed by the Bishop and handed to the registrar.

The service of the day was then read by the officiating minister; and after the lessons and collect, the Bishop read a very impressive prayer in reference to the dedication of the Church. The morning service terminated with the 1st, 4th, 5th, and 7th verses of the 84th Psalm. Then followed the Communion service, which was read by the Bishop; and the Rector announced that divine service would be performed in the Church in future every Sunday morning at eleven, and every Sunday afternoon at half-past six, and morning prayers daily at eight o'clock. The 100th Psalm was then sung by the congregation—the organ, at which Sir George Smart presided, pealing out its solemn tones in harmony with the voices of the choir.

The Rev. Mr. Humphrey, the Bishop's Chaplain, then ascended the pulpit,



THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.—CONSECRATED ON THURSDAY.

church of the Christian might be, the magnificent temple of Solomon, in all its glory, was not arrayed like one of them. The rev. preacher then referred to the great moral and social improvement that was observable in the neighbourhood of every newly-erected church, and the blessings it was calculated to confer upon the poor of a district which hitherto had not the advantage of a place of worship. In an age when a portion of the Church's children were perplexed, and when their enemies were resorting to every means of aggression, it was gratifying to be able to point to such visible marks of union and membership as were evinced on occasions like the present. These, indeed, were not times for sitting still and with folded arms, as if they were in security; on the contrary, they had great cause to be up and doing, and he trusted they all would be found ready to aid in promoting the good work. After referring to the liberality with which his Lordship (the Bishop of London) had come forward to promote the present undertaking, he showed that the Church was already completed, and that no further funds were required for that purpose; but there was another building, next to the Church itself in importance, for which funds were required—he meant a school-house, in which the poor and the ignorant might receive that instruction of which they stood so much in need. The rev. gentleman concluded an eloquent address by calling upon all present to contribute according to their means for this benevolent object.

After the Offertory and the prayer for the Church militant, the Bishop offered up a prayer to God to bless the religious solemnity of the day, and to grant that in the place then set apart for his service, his holy name might be worshipped in truth and purity to all generations.

At the conclusion of the service, the Bishop, attended by a procession arranged in the same order as at his entrance, proceeded down the aisle to the western door. The collection made at the Offertory was, we understand, of very considerable amount, and will enable the trustees forthwith to commence the erection of a school-house, for which ground has been already procured.

The Church, of which we annex a north-east View, consists of a nave with side aisles; a chancel, and a lofty pinnacled tower, with spire at the west end; and side entrance porches; the several gables having enriched crosses and other ornaments; the whole in the best periods of our ecclesiastical architecture.

The interior is entirely fitted with English oak; and the walls are decorated with appropriate inscriptions and diaphanous. The aisles are laid with Staffordshire red and buff tiles; and the chancel with Messrs. Minton's encaustic tiles.

The donations have been numerous. The east window, of stained glass, has been presented by members of the Bishop's family; the west window by some residents in the neighbourhood of the Church; the two north windows in the chancel by Mr. W. Scott, resident in the neighbourhood; the south window in the chancel by the architect and builder; the two windows at the east ends of the north and south aisles by a number of the Essex clergy, as a mark of respect and affection to their former diocesan; a small window near the roof of the chancel by the Bishop's chaplain; and the two quarefoils in the nave by Mr. Willement; the organ, by some personal friends of the Bishop; the communion-plate by his family and two friends; a silver-gilt alms-dish by a number of the Essex clergy; and the font by the churchwardens of the Holy Trinity, Finchley, in testimony of their gratitude for the great assistance rendered to that district by the Bishop.

The Church is built at the expense of the Bishop of London, who endows it with £150 per annum out of the revenues of his see. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners add £40 per annum, being the amount of the reserved rent payable to them on account of the sinecure impropriated Rectory of Fulham and Hammersmith. It is to be the church of a new parish, which is to be named St. Stephen's, Hammersmith; the patronage to be with the Bishop of London for the time being.

The site has been given partly by the Messrs. Gomm, of Hammersmith, and partly by the Bishop, as Lord of the Manor, who has also purchased a piece of ground for a garden to the Parsonage House, which the Bishop is about to build; and it is expected that schools will be erected by the parishioners.

THE GORHAM CASE.

SINCE we last noticed the Gorham case, it seems to have grown in interest and importance. The most conspicuous step of the party which sides with the Bishop of Exeter, is the protest of the clergy of the Archdeaconry of Exeter, in which they "solemnly repudiate the opinion or position that the civil power of the realm has, or ought to have, any authority or rightful power to appoint a lay court of appeal in matters affecting the Church's faith or doctrine, without the sanction and consent of that Church in sacred synod assembled." At the head of those who sign this protest stands the name of Dr. Coleridge, Prebendary of Exeter, and it is followed by the names of sixty-three other subscribers, prebendaries, incumbents, or curates of the Archdeaconry.

The rector of Falmouth, two rural deans, thirteen incumbents, and seven curates, in the neighbourhood of Falmouth, have written and subscribed a letter to Lord John Russell, declaring, in opposition to his statement in the House of Commons, which they expressly refer to, that the decision of the Privy Council has not given satisfaction to the great body of the clergy; but, on the contrary, that they are highly dissatisfied with it. At the same time, they declare that the question at issue is of the highest importance to the Christian faith, and fundamentally affects the system of the Church.

Mr. Denison, who has already solemnly protested against the decision of the Privy Council, has published a sermon preached by him on Palm Sunday, in the parish church of East Brent, Somersetshire, in which he says, amongst many other things, "That decision tells the people of England that their Church allows them to believe two things, the exact opposites the one of the other, touching the holy sacrament of baptism; a decision which tells the people of England that a minister who teaches his people, according to the Catholic faith, that their children are regenerate or born again in, and by the grace of, holy baptism; and a minister who teaches his people, contrary to the Catholic faith, that their children are not regenerate, or born again in, and by the grace of, holy baptism, but in and by something else—whereof Holy Scripture and the Church are wholly silent—that these two ministers are, both of them, equally fit to have cure of souls, and to teach in the Church of England."

The Rev. William Burdett Barter, Rector of Barchelore, in Hampshire, has published a form of sympathizing address with the Bishop of Exeter, and suggests the opening of a subscription to defray the expenses of the Bishop's defence.

At a meeting of ninety or a hundred clergymen of the Archdeaconry of Chichester Archdeacon Manning presiding, a resolution was voted by a large majority, "That it is desirable to take steps to procure an alteration of the present court of appeal for the determining of questions of doctrine and other matters purely spiritual."

We give these extracts that our readers may know how solemn and serious in the estimation of some gentlemen is the present state of things, and how much is now at stake.

Out of the dispute a new society has grown into existence, called "First Principles Association," which met at Harlow, Essex, on Tuesday. The object of this society is "to unfold and call into action the social and other parts of the system of the Church, to point out a remedy for existing evils, and supply an antidote to the false philosophy which has occasioned and is perpetuating them." The Rev. Charles Miller, vicar of Harlow, was in the chair; and perhaps the views and objects of the society may be guessed at by what he said at a church festival on the same day:—"Things are just now in lamentable confusion. I am sorry to speak with disrespect of the Government of my country, but a regard to truth compels me to say that ignorance is the chief characteristic of the Legislature." "Those who direct it seem to have no knowledge of first principles." "The Church is so ordered and arranged in its constitution as to be entirely independent of the State." "She has a revenue in herself." "As she is independent in her endowment, so is she in her jurisdiction altogether independent of the State." "We are to strive to prevent any thing or any power from interfering with the principles on which the Church is established." "To gain and give force to first principles like these, by appealing to the people, is the association formed. It is properly and justly said, that the late decision has thoroughly awakened the members of the Church throughout the length and breadth of the land." Whatever may be the result, the foundations of the union between Church and State will now be lifted and examined.

On the other side, the clergy of Hull, Beverley, and other parts of the East Riding of Yorkshire, to the number of forty-five, have "embraced an early opportunity of expressing" to the Archbishop of York, "under the present painful—not to say alarming—crisis of the Church," their "deep sense of the Divine favour and goodness towards us, in the appointment of your Grace to the high and responsible office you now fill with so much honour." They add, "But especially we acknowledge, with lively gratitude, our obligation to your Grace and to the Archbishop of Canterbury, for the approval and sanction you have each given to the wise, dispassionate, and conciliatory decision of the Judicial Committee of her Majesty's Privy Council, in the case of 'Gorham v. the Bishop of Exeter.'" We are surprised at the violence with which this judgment has been assailed, as it appears to us merely to establish the right of the clergy to maintain doctrine which is inconsistent with the Articles and Formularies of the Church, and which has been held by many of our most distinguished divines from the period of the Reformation."

Mr. Gorham's own flock of St. Just-In-Penwith assembled in vestry on Easter Monday, and, with one dissentient voice, congratulated him on the successful issue of the suit between him and his diocesan, involving, as they believe it did, vital Christian truth.

RESTORATION OF WORKSOP CHURCH.—His Grace the Duke of Portland has lent the parish of Worksop, free of interest, the sum of £1500 to pay the debt incurred by the restoration of the fine old church at Worksop, completed in 1848, bonds being given for the repayment of the loan in six years.

At the St. Clement's (Cornwall) vestry meeting, last week, Mr. W. M. Tweedy announced that Major Jenkins, in India, had offered a gift of £500 towards the building of schools for the parish of St. Clement, in connexion with St. Paul's Church; and, further, that if the parishioners will raise £500 he will give a second £500, thus making his whole contribution £1000, a substantial proof of the worthy Major's remembrance of his native parish.

The Rev. George Petyman, of Great Carlton, eldest son of the Chancellor of Lincoln, was killed by accident on Saturday afternoon last, as he was passing through a hedge with a gun in his hand, its contents having unhappily lodged in his body. In a few seconds he was a corpse. The whole neighbourhood, by whom he was deservedly respected and beloved, are thrown into the utmost consternation and grief, especially the family of the Rev. W. Smyth, of Elkington Hall, to whose daughter he was on the point of being united in matrimony.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

OXFORD.—In a Convocation holden on Wednesday, the proctors of last year resigned their offices, the senior proctor, Mr. May, making the usual procuratorial speech recounting the events that had occurred during his term of holding office. The new proctors, having been previously elected by their respective colleges, were then presented for admission to the Vice-Chancellor:—Senior Proctor the Rev. George Marshall, M.A., student of Christchurch; Junior Proctor the Rev. William George Henderson, M.A., Fellow of Magdalen College. The former was presented by the Very Rev. the Dean of Christchurch; the latter by the Rev. Dr. Bloxam, one of the Senior Fellows of Magdalen College. After making the parliamentary declaration, taking the usual oaths, and being admitted by the Vice-Chancellor, the new proctors nominated the following gentlemen to be pro-proctors for the ensuing year:—The Rev. Charles Edward Conybeare, M.A., and the Rev. Edward Stokes, M.A., Students of Christchurch; the Rev. Henry Harris, M.A., and the Rev. John Rigaud, Fellows of Magdalen College.

On Saturday last the parish church of St. Peter's, at Winkfield, near Windsor, was consecrated by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Oxford. The sacred building was crowded by the clergy and families of the gentry of Windsor, Eton, and the surrounding neighbourhood.

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The Rev. William Corfield, to the Rectory of Llanfoist, Monmouthshire. The Rev. W. Wilkenson, to the rectory of Hambledon, in Surrey. The Rev. W. S. Thompson, M.A., to the rectory of Fobbing, Essex. The Rev. Charles Henry Hosken, to the vicarage of Cubert, Cornwall. The Rev. E. Bulmer (not the Rev. Dr. Layng, as given in our last), to the vicarage of Holmer, with the perpetual curacy of Huntington, Herefordshire. The Rev. James Archibald, to the vicarage of Avonbury, near Bromyard; patron, the Crown.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently been presented with testimonials of esteem and affection:—The Rev. Pelham Maitland, late curate of Broadstairs, Isle of Thanet, from the parishioners; the Rev. George Campbell Gordon, one of the curates of St. Andrew's, Holborn, London, from the parishioners; the Rev. Joseph Belton, rector of St. Michael, Stamford, from the parishioners; the Rev. William Wilkenson, curate of Lychett Minster, on his approaching removal; the Rev. R. King, curate of Baltonsborough, on his retirement; the Rev. Dr. Carpenter, late incumbent of St. Jude's, Liverpool, on his departure; the Rev. F. W. Wicks, of St. Nicholas's, Whitehaven, from the ladies of the congregation; the Rev. Wm. Howorth, from the parishioners of March, on his retirement; the Rev. Henry Dombraie, from the congregation of St. George's, Deal; the Rev. Henry Meers, ex-chaplain of the Bucks County Gaol, from the magistrates of the county; the Rev. R. T. Wheeler, of St. John's, Blackburn, from the congregation.

CHURCH AND STATE.—The Anti-state Church Conference are calling upon their supporters to send delegates to the approaching second triennial conference of the Anti-state Church Association. This association originated at a conference of upwards of 700 delegates from all parts of the country in 1844, and its constitution provides for a similar assembly every three years, at which its plans of action are subjected to a general revision, with a view to suit them to the varying circumstances of the times. The Anti-state Church Association disavows all theological or sectarian preferences, while the committee "wish it to be distinctly understood that all persons—whether previously connected with the society or not—who concur in the society's fundamental principle, and in the propriety of organized efforts for giving it effect, are eligible both to appoint and become delegates."

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

THE DEAN OF HEREFORD.

THE Very Rev. John Merewether, D.D., Dean of Hereford, was a scion of the ancient and respectable Wiltshire family of Merewether. He owed his rise to his being curate of Hampton, Middlesex, during the time that William IV., then Duke of Clarence, and his admirable Duchess, resided at Bushy. The fervour and zeal of the clergyman in his avocations, and his popularity with his congregation, won the notice and esteem of the Royal pair, who took much interest in his preaching. He was appointed Chaplain to the Duke; and when that Prince ascended the throne, he made Dr. Merewether Deputy Clerk of the Closet and Dean of Hereford. The Dean was also named for a bishopric, but he was induced at the time to forego his claim in favour of another. His recent connexion with the famous Dr. Hampden case is too well known to need detail or comment here. The Dean, who was also Rector of Radnor, and Vicar of Madely, died at his Vicarage, on the 4th inst., much and generally regretted. A portrait of the late Dean, sketched in Bow Church, appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.



GENERAL SIR ARCHIBALD GALLOWAY, K.C.B.

This distinguished officer, having spent the greater part of his life in active and able service, rose through the various grades to that of a General, and was made a Companion of the Bath in 1838; he subsequently became a K.C.B. Sir Archibald Galloway was Chairman of the Hon. East India Company. The gallant General died on the 6th inst., at his residence, 18, Upper Harley-street, to the great grief of a very extended circle of friends and admirers.

CAPTAIN SMITH, R.N.

CAPTAIN GEORGE SMITH, R.N., the Admiralty Superintendent of contract packets at Southampton, entered the Royal Navy in 1808, and, after a brilliant career, was made a Captain the 13th April, 1832. Captain Smith was the inventor of very superior sights for ship's guns, of a lever or moveable target, and of paddle-box safety-boats for steamships. In 1833, he published a volume entitled "A few Remarks on the Siege of Antwerp;" also, a plan for the suppression of piracy. It may be added, also, that he was introducing at Southampton the practice of naval gunnery amongst the crews of the contract Mail Steam-packet Company. This excellent officer died on the 6th instant, at Southampton, being at the time little more than fifty years of age.

IMPORTATIONS OF CORN.—The total quantity of wheat and flour imported into the United Kingdom from the 5th of January, 1849, to the 5th of January, 1850, was 4,835,280 qrs., of which 4,675,233 were foreign and 160,047 colonial. The other importations of bread-stuffs within the same period were as follows:—Barley and barley-meal, 1,389,858 qrs.; oats and oat-meal, 1,307,904 qrs.; rye and rye-meal, 245,843 qrs.; peas and pea-meal, 336,525 qrs.; beans and bean-meal, 458,651 qrs.; Indian corn and meal, 2,277,224 qrs.; buckwheat, 627 qrs.; total of all sorts, 10,753,755 qrs., of which 10,552,195 were foreign and 201,560 colonial. The largest importations were from the ports within the Black Sea, Prussia, the Hanseatic Towns, Holland, Belgium, France, Denmark, and the United States. The average prices during the year were:—Wheat, 44s. 3d.; barley, 27s. 9d.; oats, 17s. 6d.; rye, 25s. 8d.; beans, 30s. 2d.; and peas, 31s. 2d.

NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED ON RAILWAYS.—A Parliamentary return has been issued, extending to thirty-three folio pages, showing the number and description of persons employed on all railways on the 30th of June last. The total number employed on railways, open and un-open, was 159,784. On open lines there were 55,968 persons employed; and on railways not open for traffic there were 103,816, of which number 83,052 were labourers. On the open lines there were 156 secretaries and managers, 32 treasurers, 107 engineers, 314 superintendents, 120 storekeepers, 138 accountants and cashiers, 490 inspectors and timekeepers, 1300 station-masters, 103 draughtsmen, 4021 clerks, 709 foremen, 1839 engine-drivers, 1871 assistant engine-drivers and firemen, 1631 guards and breaksmen, 1540 switchmen, 1361 gatekeepers, 1508 policemen or watchmen, 8238 porters and messengers, 5508 platelayers, 10,809 artificers, 14,028 labourers, and 144 miscellaneous employment; making a total of 55,968. The total length of railways open on the 30th of June was 5447 miles and 10½ chains. Length of railway in the course of construction, 1504 miles and 20½ chains; and 5132 miles neither open nor in the course of construction on the 30th of June. The result shows that on the 30th of June the length of railways authorised to be used for the conveyance of passengers was 5132 miles and 38½ chains; and the number of persons employed was 159,784.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Business in the English funds during the past week has been extremely limited, as far as the public dealings have been concerned; the slight fluctuations that have occurred entirely resulting from the adjustment of the Account, which has been Bullish. Large sums were lent on Thursday at 1½, and in some cases attraction above or below that price, with a view to carrying over, the prevailing belief of the speculators out of the house being in favour of the rise. Consols have ranged from Monday's price of 96½ to 95½. The price for the next (May) account being 96 to ½. The abundance of money consequent on paying the dividends has improved the price of Exchequer Bills to 70 71, for small. Reduced and New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent. being closed, confines the late quotations to Consols, which closed at 96. Bank Stock, 205; Long Anns. to expire Jan., 1850; 84; Ditto, 30 years, October 10, 1859, 8; India Stock, 268; India Bonds, £1000, 91 pm; Ditto, under £1000, 94 pm; Consols for Account, 96; Exchequer Bills, £1000, June, 70 pm; Small, June, 69 pm.

There has been some activity in the Foreign Market, Spanish Stock improving upon the impending settlement between Great Britain and Spain. Peruvian, on the contrary, has fluctuated, sales continuing to predominate until Thursday. The price on Monday varied from 66½ to 65½ x d, but has since advanced to 68½. Mexican has advanced to 29½, it being proposed to divide the assets in the Bank of England, without waiting until it is sufficient to pay the entire dividend. This course is much to be deprecated; the funds being in safe keeping, it would lessen trouble, and be more creditable, to pay a

full dividend at as early a date as practicable, the proposed course only leading to gambling in the Stock. Portuguese is quoted in advance of last week; Buenos Ayres has also recovered its depression of the beginning of the week. The Market closed with firmness, at the following prices:—Brazilian Bonds, 71; Buenos Ayres Bonds, 6 per Cent, 54½; Danish, 5 per Cent, Scrip, 4½ pm; Grenada, Deferred, 3½; Mexico, 5 per Cent, 1846, ex Jan. Coupons, Account, 29½; Peruvian Bonds, 4 per Cent, Account, 68 x d; Ditto, Deferred, 27½; Portuguese, 4 per Cent, 33; Ditto, Account, 32½; Russian, Scrip, 1½ pm; Spanish, 5 per Cent, 1840, Account, 18½; Ditto, 3 per Cent, 37½; Dutch, 4 per Cent, Certificated, 85½; Ditto, Account, 85½.

Shares continue depressed, as the following list will demonstrate:—Aberdeen, 11; Birmingham and Oxford Junction, calls only paid, or with a guarantee, 26½; Bristol and Exeter, 65; Buckinghamshire, 16½; Caledonian, 7½; Ditto, New, £10, Preference, 5½; Chester and Holyhead, 6½; Ditto, Preference, 7; Eastern Counties, 7; Ditto, New, Preference, Six per Cent, 11½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 26½; Great Northern, 5½; Do., A, Deferred, 1½; Do., B, Six per Cent, 4½; Do., Five per Cent, Pref., 10½; Great South and West, (Ireland), 26; Great Western, 5½; Do., ½ Shares, 12½; Do., Fifths, 10; Do., New, £17, 6½; Hull and Selby, 97; Ditto, Half Shares, 47½; Lancaster and Carlisle, 5½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 33; Ditto, Fifths, 10½; Ditto, New, Guaranteed Six per Cent, 11; Leeds and Bradford, 94; London Brighton and South Coast, 7½; London and North-Western, 103½; Ditto, New Quarters, 10½; Ditto, Fifths, 11½; London and South-Western, 60; Lowestoft, Guaranteed Four per Cent, 10; Midland, 34½; Ditto, £50 Shares, 2½; Ditto, Consolidated Bristol and Birmingham, Six per Cent, 121; Newmarket, 14; North British, 7½ x d; Ditto Preference, 4½ x d; North Staffordshire, 7; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 6½; Preston and Wyre, 40½; Reading, Guildford, and Reigate, 15 x 1; Royston and Hitchin, 4½; Scottish Central, 12; Shropshire Union, 2½ x d; South-Eastern, 12½; Ditto, No. 2, 12½; Ditto, Registered, No. 4, 4½; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 12½; York and North Midland, 15½; Ditto Preference, 6½; Boulogne and Amiens, 6; Central of France (Orleans and Vierzon), 12½; East Indian, 5½; Luxembourg, ½; Ditto, 1½; Namur and Liege, 7; Northern of France, 12½; Orleans and Bordeaux, 2½; Paris and Rouen, 19½; Paris and Strasbourg, 5½; Sambre and Mouse, 2½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Since our last report, the arrivals of wheat of home produce, coastwise as well as by land carriage and sample, have been on the increase. All kinds have met a very dull inquiry, at a decline in the quotations of from 1s to 2s per quarter, without offering clearances. In foreign wheat—the imports of which have been large—scarcely any business doing, at 1s per quarter less money. Malt and grinding barley has produced full prices, but distilling sorts have commanded very little attention. Malt has ruled dull, at the late fall in value. The imports of oats having been unusually large, the sale for all kinds has ruled very inactive, at 6d per quarter less money. Beans, peas, and flour must be considered somewhat easier, especially the low qualities of the latter. Indian corn has been held at full prices.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 38s to 42s; ditto, white, 40s to 47s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 37s to 40s; ditto, white, 40s to 43s; rye, 22s to 25s; grinding barley, 18s to 21s; distilling ditto, 22s to 24s; malt, 22s to 27s; Norfolk and Lincoln malt, 43s to 45s; brown ditto, 40s to 44s; Kingston and Ware, 48s to 50s; Chevallier, 51s to 52s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 14s to 16s; potato ditto, 16s to 18s; Youghal and Cork, black, 13s to 15s; ditto, white, 14s to 16s; tick beans, new, 22s to 24s; ditto, old, 21s to 23s; grey peas, 23s to 25s; mangel, 25s to 28s; white, 22s to 24s; boliers, 24s to 26s per quarter. Town-made flour, 32s to 35s; Suffolk, 27s to 31s; Stockton and Yorkshire, 27s to 31s per 280 lbs.—Foreign: Danish red wheat, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; barley, —s to —s; oats, —s to —s; beans, —s to —s; peas, —s to —s per quarter. Flour, American, 20s to 23s per barrel; Baltic, 20s to 23s per barrel.

The Seed Market.—So little business is doing in the seed market, that our quotations are almost nominal.

Linsed, English, sowing, 54s to 56s; Baltic, crushing, 40s to 42s; Mediterranean and Odessa, 38s to 44s; Hempseed, 33s to 36s per quarter; Coriander, 16s to 25s per cwt.; Brown Mustard-seed, 8s to 11s; white ditto, 6s to 9s 6d. Tares, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per bushel. English rapeseed, new, £35 to £38 per last of ten quarters. Linsed cakes, English, £9 5s to £10 0s; ditto, foreign, £8 0s to £7 10s per 1000; Rapeseed cakes, £4 0s to £4 5s per ton. Canary, 68s to 72s per quarter. English Clover-seed, red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s. Foreign, red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s.

Bread.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 6d to 6½d; of household ditto, 4d to 5½d, per 4½ lb loaf.

Imported Weekly Average.—Wheat, 38s 1d; barley, 23s 2d; oats, 14s 10d; rye, 21s 6d; beans, 23s 8d; peas, 21s 5d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 38s 1d; barley, 23s 6d; oats, 15s 1d; rye, 22s 4d; beans, 24s 1d; peas, 23s 3d.

Duties on Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 1s 0d; barley, 1s 0d; oats, 1s 0d; rye, 1s 0d; beans, 1s 0d; peas, 1s 0d.

Rice.—The market is well supplied with all descriptions. Common sound Congou is selling slowly, at 9½d to 10d per lb. Middling qualities are quoted at 10½d to 11½d. Green teas move off heavily, and the quotations have a downward tendency.

Sugar.—West India is in moderate request, at last week's prices. Bengal and Mauritius parcels have fallen in value 6d per cwt. About 2000 boxes yellow Havannah have sold at 19s 6d to 20s per cwt. Refined goods steady. Brown lumps, 48s 6d to 49s; and good to fair grocery, 49s 6d to 51s per cwt. Crushed sugar dull.

Coffee.—Ceylon qualities are very dull in sale, at 49s to 50s per cwt. In plantation parcels, exceedingly little is doing.

Rice.—White Bengal is in moderate request, at 9s 6d to 9s 9d per cwt. Cleaned rice commands very little attention.

Promotions.—Only a limited business is doing in foreign butter, at drooping prices. Fine Friesland is quoted at 83s to 84s; Holstein and Kiel, 82s to 83s; and inferior and surplus, 59s to 70s per cwt. About 3000 skines of Irish butter have sold for the northern markets, at 64s to 74s per cwt. For London consumption the demand is heavy, at 1s to 2s per cwt. less money, although the stock is much reduced. Carlow, firsts, landed, 70s to 76s; Cork, 74s to 76s; and Limerick, 64s to 70s per cwt. English butter is again lower. Fine butter, 90s to 92s; middling ditto, 75s to 78s per cwt; fresh, 7s to 12s per dozen lbs. Prime Irish bacon has advanced 1s per cwt., but all other kinds rule dull. Prime sea-breeze Waterford, landed, 46s to 48s; heavy, 43s to 46s; small Limerick, 44s to 45s; and Hamburg, 40s to 41s per cwt. Prime Irish hams, 60s to 70s per cwt.

Tallow.—Although the accounts from St. Petersburg bring higher prices, our market is flat. F. Y. C. on the spot is selling at 36s 9d to 37s; and for forward delivery, 38s 3d per cwt. Tallow, pure, is 5s 6d to 5s 8d per cwt; rough fat, 2s per 8 lb.

Oils.—The general demand is very inactive, at barely the late decline in quotations.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 8s to £3 10s; clover, ditto, £3 to £4 10s; and straw, £1 to £1 8s per load.

Coal.—South Kellco, 17s 6d; Thornley, 17s 9d; Denison, 17s; St. Helen's Tees, 16s 9d; Harrity, 14s 9d per ton.

Spirits.—Brandy is very dull in sale; and to effect large sales lower prices must be submitted to. Cognac of the vintage of 1849 is selling at 4s 5d to 4s 7d per gallon.

Hops.—For all kinds the demand is extremely inactive, and late rates are not supported.

Wool.—By private contract only a moderate supply of wool is offering, yet the dealers purchase with extreme caution, and prices have a downward tendency.

Potatoes.—Selected samples are in fair request, at from 80s to 100s per cwt. All other kinds are very dull. The imports from abroad continue extensive.

Smilfield.—The general demand has ruled heavy, at a decline in prices of 2d per 8 lbs.

Beef, mutton, and Lamb.—These markets are exceedingly inactive, and the quotations are still tending downwards.

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Beef, mutton, and Lamb



THE "DUKE OF PORTLAND," EMIGRANT SHIP, FOR PORT PHILLIP.

SLEDGING IN STOCKHOLM.

A CORRESPONDENT in "the Venice of the North," as Stockholm has been well termed, informs us that great preparations are making in that capital, to celebrate the marriage of the Prince Royal of Sweden, fixed to take place in June.

The accompanying Sketch is a scene from the Swedish metropolis, and represents a young Diplomatist (a striking likeness) crossing the North Bridge in his sledge. The peasants on foot are from the province of Dalecarlia; and the whole presents a very characteristic scene of Swedish life.

In the very amusing "Life of a Travelling Physician," we find some pleasant glimpses of the peculiarities of Stockhol'm. Our tourist says:—

"The women in Stockholm perform operations which in other countries are monopolised by the male sex. They labour, too, for a pittance. Still are they no race of Amazons; but a pretty set of women are the Wacker Flikas and the sight of them proves to you that you are not in Russia."

"The people bear the character of great good-nature; but this is even carried to a fault, and is a national weakness. They have not sufficient firmness when it is necessary, and can hardly say no to a request where prudence demands a negative. Hence they are continually getting into scrapes by lending their names as security upon bills, &c. The poorer classes are reckless, and live much for the day, which for them is sufficient. They are given to intoxication. They fare hardly, living upon black bread which requires a hatchet to break it, and which you see selling in the street, in the shape of round cakes with a hole drilled

through the centre. By this means it is hung on hooks to the beams of the hut; and sometimes Sancho's proverb proves too true—that you often see hooks in the ceiling where there is no bacon to hang upon them. Herrings and potatoes are not within the reach of all."

THE "DUKE OF PORTLAND" EMIGRANT SHIP,
1000 TONS.

EMIGRATION has now become like a great and rapid stream, which draws into itself, and hurries along with it in its course, a very miscellaneous assemblage of interests. Of this, example was afforded in the living freight of the *Duke of Portland*, a noble specimen of an emigrant ship, which left Gravesend for Port Phillip, on Wednesday last.

There were emigrants on board of very different ranks and degrees; among them an unusual number of that class called "respectable," in whose dress and general aspect one had to seek some other cause than pressing poverty for the long voyage, and new and uncertain future on which they were venturing. Among these there were leave-takings; and on the part of friends returning on shore were tokens of sorrow. There were, of course, others belonging to that great class who *make* wealth; and who, let us hope, will make the wealth of the antipodes on such terms as to acquire for themselves a larger share of it than would have been their lot in the old country.

The *Duke of Portland* is also freighted with the third instalment, to the number of sixty, of that female emigration so nobly planned and carried forward by the Hon. Mr. Sidney Herbert—as they were described by a Gravesend boatswain (with a tone and context gentler than the phrase), "a parcel o' needlewomen." These arrived on board on Monday afternoon, accompanied by Mr. S. Herbert and a few gentlemen interested in their welfare. The *Star*, Gravesend steamer, which conveyed the party, is seen in our Illustration, running down to the ship, just previous to rounding to and ranging up alongside.

The spacious cabin in which the poor needlewomen were speedily assembled, mustered, and arranged, presented a strange and interesting scene. The noble-hearted and high-born promoter of the emigration plan, the clergy, and others employed in superintending the arrangements, the emigrants themselves sitting in quiet order, with their looks of cheerful hope, all combined to form a scene characteristic of our time.

Others among the emigrants were sent out in like manner by means of funds charitably raised among a few individuals. We observed a clergyman taking leave of some of the poor of this great city, who owed their bettered prospects to his exertions. Others of the clergy were bidding adieu to members of their flocks.

The *Duke of Portland* is a very fine ship, of about 1000 tons, and she and her commander, Captain Cubitt, appear to understand making quick voyages. The spiritual interests of the emigrants, and of their children, will not be uncared for; for, besides a good supply of books put on board by Mr. S. Herbert, and those associated with him, the ship is provided with a "religious instructor," accredited to his mission on the voyage by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.



SLEDGING IN STOCKHOLM—FROM AN ORIGINAL DRAWING.